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A. L. Thompson

HISTORICAL RECORD

TO THE CLOSE OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

OF

Rockland County,

NEW YORK.

ILLUSTRATED.

EDITED BY ARTHUR S. TOMPKINS.

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PREFACE.

PREFACE.

The essential pre-requisite of a rational patriotism is an intelligent acquaintance with the history of one's country. Macauley, the historian, has said that the history of a country is best told in a record of the lives of its people. To supply a means towards making that acquaintance through all available sources is the cherished object of this work. Hence the manifest interest of our citizens demand a clearer record of the early days of this part of southern New York than we now possess. Therefore, in the following pages it is designed to give a complete narrative—in as few words and as simple form as possible—relating to the early history, with a brief sketch of the character, habits and religious views of the aborigines and particularly the names, occupancy, changes, organization and progress of the civil and religious bodies of the county of Rockland from its first settlement up to the present time.

The history of what is now the county of Rockland, formerly part of the county of Orange, and the early history of this county after its separation from Orange county is as interesting as that of any county in the State. It is rich and teeming with events of the Revolutionary period, which should be read with the keenest interest by all who are to-day enjoying the fruits of the sacrifices and achievements of that period. This county is one of the five or six counties of the State that are directly and closely identified with the great struggle for independence. The British forces and the Continental Army camped and marched and fought over much of the territory of Rockland county.

In the following pages we have endeavored to give an accurate description of the important part which this county has had in the building and preservation of the Republic. For the historical part of the work valuable information was selected from the works of eminent writers. With a due acknowledgement for these historical facts thus

PREFACE.

selected, for the "Bench and Bar" of the county, by Hon. Alonzo Wheeler; the Medical Profession, by N. B. Bayley, M. D.; the different towns in the county, by J. Bogert Suffern, Esq., District Attorney Thomas H. Lee, Aaron VanKeuren, Esq., R. H. Fenton, Esq., Emma K. Odell, Capt. Charles M. O'Brien and others, for the valuable information of the religious bodies of the county, furnished by the various church officials, and for the many incidents of interest not heretofore published, given by our venerable and esteemed citizens, thanks are hereby rendered.

I have devoted as much of my time and attention to the general supervision of the editorial department of the work as my other duties would permit, and with a consciousness that the greatest vigilance cannot wholly exclude errors, this work is respectfully submitted.

Nyack, July 15th, 1902.

ARTHUR S. TOMPKINS.

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PART I.

HISTORICAL.

HISTORY OF ROCKLAND COUNTY.

CHAPTER I. A GENERAL SURVEY.

The Subject—Location and Surroundings—Prominent Features of the Landscape—The Stories They Tell—Boundaries—Principal Industries—Population.

THE County of Rockland, in the State of New York, is the most southern of the tier of counties on the west bank of the Hudson River. Triangular in form, its boundaries on two sides are merely straight geographical lines, drawn by the hand of man, but the boundary marks of the third side were set by the Almighty Creator, and adorned with many of the most beautiful lineaments in nature. Fronted by the widest reaches of the river and buttressed by a remarkable chain of hills, with the Palisades on one hand and the battlements of the Highlands on the other, the shore of Rockland County has a character distinct and picturesque. More precisely, the river side of the county is bounded on the south by the State line of New Jersey and on the north by Poplopen's kill, which, where it issues from a deep ravine to unite with the river, passes between two famous fortified places of the Revolution, Fort Clinton and Fort Montgomery. The significance of the name chosen by the fathers for their county is apparent upon viewing the wonderful escarpments of trap-rock that give the right bank of the lower Hudson the appearance of a far-reaching fortress. But behind this rough exterior, on the other side of the adamantine curtain, are broad acres of pleasant plains and gently rolling country, so that full two-thirds of the total surface of the county is farming land. The thunders of the lofty Dunderberg and its rugged companions, which so alarmed the early Dutch navigators of the "River of the Mountains," have no terrors for those who dwell in these peaceful valleys. Against the "Mountain of Thunder" the summer showers seem to break, as white-crested billows dash furiously against a rocky isle at sea, and the first warning of a coming tempest is given by the reverberations from its sides. Have you not heard of the "little bulbous-buttoned Dutch goblin, in trunk hose and sugar-loaf hat,

with speaking trumpet in his hand, which, they say, keeps the Dunderberg," and how "in stormy weather, in the midst of the turmoil, the river captains can hear him giving orders in low Dutch for the piping up of a fresh gust of wind, or the rattling off of another thunderclap?" And, "sometimes he has been seen surrounded by a crew of little imps in broad breeches and short doublets, tumbling head over heels in the rack and moist, and playing a thousand gambols in the air, or buzzing like a thousand flies about Anthony's Nose," at which times, 'tis said, the "hurry-scurry" of the storm was always greatest.

Geographically the Palisades have their beginning in the town of Haverstraw, where High Tor and Little Tor (or Spire) are like knots in the head of the chain. With their feet in the river, they extend southward for thirty miles or more, but have their greatest magnitude within the limits of the Town of Clarkstown, in that titanic buttress known as Hook Mountain, behind which, all unsuspected from the river, nestles, lovely and tranquil, Rockland Lake. Here and there the great wall is cut by gorges, as at Piermont (formerly Tappan Landing), where the Sparkill flows out, and through these openings the river traveler gets glimpses and suggestions of what lies beyond. The ridge is narrow, being in some places hardly half a mile wide. At its feet, on the river side, are heaped the debris of ages upon ages, in the form of rocks that have crumbled from the cliffs above, in some places overgrown with stunted trees and shrubbery or climbing vines. On the western side the slope, for the most part, is gentle, covered with rich soil and wooded. In height the Palisades exceed four hundred feet on the average, but the most elevated knob on the Hook is 668 feet above the river. The Dutch called it Verdrietigh Hoeck—Tedious or Vexation Point—because here they expected to meet adverse winds that would detain their vessels for a long time in this part of their course. Curious, stupendous and impressive, the Palisades are one of the wonders of the Western World.

In front of Rockland County the Hudson river expands into two broad lakes, the lower one called the Tappan Zee, and the upper one Haverstraw Bay. They are separated by Croton Point, a projection from the eastern shore nearly two miles in length, at the mouth of the Croton river. In former times it was known as Teller's Point, and by the Indians called "Se-nas-quá," in honor of Sarah, wife of William Teller, who purchased the valuable estate from them for a barrel of rum and twelve blankets. Each of the great bays is from two to three miles

across, and they constitute the broadest portions of the Hudson. At the head of Haverstraw Bay, on opposite sides, are Stony and Verplanck's Points, and a little farther north, where the stream narrows again, are the abrupt mountain peaks which form the southern gate of the Highlands. Near the northern extremity of the county is Iona Island, between which and Anthony's Nose the river is not more than three-eighths of a mile wide. But the channel is deep, and so swift is the current that the reach is called "The Race." The island was fifty years ago the private estate of Dr. C. W. Grant, who, coming from Newburgh, engaged here in the extended propagation of choice fruits. His vineyards covered twenty acres; his fruit trees were thousands in number; with eleven propagation houses, he produced plants that were called for from all parts of the country. The celebrated Iona Grape originated here. The Indian name of the island was "Man-a-ha-wagh-kin;" the present name ("I-own-a-Island") was bestowed by Dr. Grant. Recently purchased by the United States Government, the tract is now being equipped as an ammunition station for the Navy; extensive magazines and other buildings are in course of erection.

The Minisceongo, at Grassy Point, and the Sparkill, at Piermont, are the only streams of importance which enter the Hudson from Rockland County, but the interior is well watered by rivers or creeks that find their way to the sea in other directions, notably the Hackensack, which has one of its sources in Rockland Lake; the Passaic, the Pearl, the Ramapo and the Mahwah. The largest body within the confines of the county is Rockland Lake. Situated at an elevation above the Hudson of 150 feet, separated from the river only by a narrow ridge of mountains, and surrounded on nearly every side by shores steep and rugged, it is both picturesque and remarkable. In form an irregular ellipse, it covers five hundred acres, being about half a mile in length and three-quarters of a mile at the widest part. Along the eastern margin are extensive ice-houses, and the ice harvest in winter provides employment for many hands. The blocks of ice begin their journey to the metropolis by being lowered down an inclined plane to wharves at the river, whence they are transported by barges. Portage Lake and Shepherd's Pond, in the western corner of the county; Lake Antrim, near Suffern, and Highland Lake, in the northerly angle, and the lake at Congers are the only other considerable bodies of water in Rockland.

No other reach of river or stretch of country is so filled with mem-

ories of the long struggle for American Independence as is the Rockland County shore of the Hudson. Every bold headland, sheltered cove and inviting beach has contributed something to the history of America, or can tell a story of romance or tradition. The Highland forts speak reverently the names of the patriot farmers who died in their defence. Every stone and breastwork in what was finally an impregnable chain of fortifications extending from Stony Point northward to Plum Point, was a monument of humble, disinterested devotion by the starving soldiers of this valley, who without hope of pay reared them and defied their oppressors to take them. The batteries, forts and redoubts which they constructed, the booms and chains which they stretched from shore to shore, saved the States from being cut asunder and separately conquered. The very iron in the chains that literally bound together the two sections of the young republic was taken out of the veins of the adjacent counties. Against Stony Point Mad Anthony Wayne led his Continentals to victory, first assembling them in the passes behind Bear Mountain and the Dunderberg. In the little cove on the north side of the rocky promontory was the King's Ferry landing, the ferry being the connecting link between New England and the colonies west and south of the Hudson. Here the French army crossed when going to Yorktown, and when it returned. To Treason Hill came Arnold and Andre to mature their plan for the surrender of West Point, and yonder, where the Haverstraw mountain range comes down to meet the tide, Andre, escorted by Joshua Hett Smith, landed by a small boat from the British sloop-of-war Vulture. In the thicket close by he met his "Gustavus," and with him conspired until the day broke; when it being too late for the British Adjutant-General to return to the vessel unobserved by the shore guard, he was persuaded by the traitor to accept protection until the following night. Disregarding the orders of his General, Andre passed within the American lines with his "protector," and never came out alive. Forty-one years later another British man-of-war came up the river to the Tappan Zee, and a commission sent by the British Government, debarking at Sneden's Landing, proceeded to Tappan, where they exhumed the bones of Andre and carried them back to England.

At Verplanck's Point occurred the grandest international military review in the history of the nation. On August 31, 1782, for the purpose of receiving and tendering a welcome to the French army, then on its return from Virginia, the forces constituting the Main Continental

army moved by land and water from their separate cantonments and stations in and near the Highlands and encamped at Verplanck's Point. The American forces numbered about eight thousand men, and for the first time since the beginning of the war were decently uniformed, well armed, properly equipped and camped in tents of regular model. Six years of service in the field had made them trained veterans. All the tents were immediately decorated with laurel, evergreens and branches of trees, and the camp presented a picturesque and beautiful appearance. The French troops arrived at Stony Point on September 14, being saluted with cannonry and hailed with cheers by their allies on the farther shore. After crossing in boats furnished by the Americans, the French column marched through the American lines, receiving every mark of honor from Washington's men, and went into camp a short distance away. General Washington and his officers reviewed the French army on October 1, and the next day the French officers reviewed the American forces. A fortnight later eight battalions picked from the Continental troops were manœuvred before the officers of the two armies. An eye-witness recorded that several of the French officers, who had seen troops of different European nations, bestowed encomiums and applause on our army, saying that they had seen no troops superior to the Americans. The Americans bestowed every courtesy and attention upon the French soldiers, who had aided them in throwing off the British yoke. On October 22 the French legions marched away for Boston, and there embarked for home.

Until 1798 the territory now embraced in Rockland County formed part of Orange. By act of the Legislature, Rockland was then set off and bounds established as follows: "All that tract of land in the county of Orange lying northwest of a line beginning at the mouth of Poplopen's kill, on Hudson's river, and running from thence to the southeast-most corner of the farm of Stephen Sloat, and then along the south bounds of this farm to the southwest corner thereof, and then on the same course to the bounds of the State of New Jersey, shall be and is hereby erected into a separate county, and shall be called and known by the name of Orange;" and, "all that part of the said county of Orange lying southward of the above described line shall be erected into a separate county, and shall be called and known by the name of Rockland." The Act of April 3, 1801, gives the line between the two counties as "from the middle of Hudson's river west to the mouth of Poplopen's

kill, and from thence on a direct course to the east end of the mill dam now or late of Michael Weiman across the Ramapough river, and from thence a direct course to the twenty-mile stone standing in the said division line between this State and the State of New Jersey." The original Orange County was one of the first twelve into which the Province was divided in 1683, and extended "from the limits or bounds of East and West Jersey, on the west side of Hudson's river, along the said river to Murderer's creek, or bounds of the county of Ulster; and westward into the woods as far as the Delaware river." The act which separated Rockland from Orange also set off the towns of New Windsor, Newburgh, Wallkill, Montgomery and Deerpark from the county of Ulster and annexed them to the county of Orange. The history of Rockland County, therefore, in Colonial and Revolutionary times, was identical with that of Orange. The first town or precinct to be organized in the county was the town of Orange (Orangetown), in 1686, and in 1719 the precinct of Haverstraw was formed.

The town divisions of the county are now five in number, namely: Orangetown, Clarkstown, Haverstraw, Ramapo and Stony Point. The county capital is at New City, in the town of Clarkstown, and the largest centers of population are Nyack and Haverstraw villages. Although Rockland County contains no incorporated city, there are a large number of villages, for the most part handsomely laid out and kept, the centers for many fine estates. Owing to the proximity of the metropolis, it is convenient and agreeable for many gentlemen whose place of business is in the city to have their home in this county. Facilities for travel and transportation are supplied by the river and a number of railroads. Regular lines of steamboats call daily at the principal river towns. The West Shore Railroad passes through the county north and south, between Tappan and Iona Island, and by tunnel through the Haverstraw mountain range; north of Haverstraw the line follows the river shore. Other roads are the Erie and the Piermont branch, the Northern Railroad of New Jersey, with Nyack as the northern terminus, and the New Jersey and New York, terminating at Haverstraw.

One of the largest industries of the county, brick making, has its center on the shore of Haverstraw Bay, where great beds of clay are found overtopped with sand. For three miles the river is lined with brick sheds and yards, and the face of nature has been sadly scarred by long continued excavating for material. Haverstraw has been the

leader in this industry for the whole country, both in invention and production. At Garnerville are the Rockland print works, one of the largest establishments of the kind in the State. The prosperity of the group of villages on this bay can be judged in part from the growth of the village of West Haverstraw, which in the last decade increased from a population of 180 to 2,078. The section shows marked improvement in its residential features. In Haverstraw village this is particularly noticeable in the vicinity of the West Shore railroad station. Another large industry of the county is at Tomkins Cove, where immense limestone deposits and fine facilities for shipping are found in combination. The extensive business of the Tomkins Cove Stone Company, begun here in 1837, with its quarries, kilns, crushing-works and barges, gives employment to many hands. Nyack, originally the principal market town and commercial port for the county, with turnpikes extending into the back country, has become in the last half century an important manufacturing center, with a variety of products, notably shoes, boats and manufactures of iron. At Ramapo and Hillburn are large iron works, and at Pearl River the Dexter folding machine works.

The population of the county increased from 35,162, in 1890, to 38,298, at the last census, in 1900. In 1880 the population was 27,690. The complete figures are as follows:

	1900.	1890.
Clarkstown, including upper Nyack village.....	6,305	5,216
Upper Nyack village.....	516	668
Haverstraw town, including Haverstraw and West		
Haverstraw villages	9,874	9,079
Haverstraw village	5,935	5,070
West Haverstraw village	2,079	180
Orangetown, including Nyack, Piermont and South		
Nyack villages	10,456	10,343
Nyack village	4,275	4,111
Piermont village	1,153	1,219
South Nyack	1,601	1,496
Ramapo town, including Hillburn and Suffern vil-		
lages	7,502	5,910
Hillburn village	824	
Suffern village	1,619	
Stony Point town	4,161	4,614

CHAPTER II.

PREHISTORIC CURRENTS.

Geological Formation—Erratic Boulders and Other Drift Deposits—Scratched Surfaces—The Palisades a River of Lava—Features of the Landscape.

IN regard to the geological history of the section, Prof. Mather, who made an official survey and report for the State of New York, considered it evident that a vast inland sea once occupied the Hudson and St. Lawrence valleys, since the periods of the drift deposits. The materials deposited from the waters in that area during a considerable period of time are such as we might, he said, expect in such a body of water, with a moderate flow through its channels of communication with the ocean, and having the general contour of its bottom and shores the same as we now find the topographical features of the country to be. The water level has changed in this area, and as the ocean maintained its equilibrium, this vast tract of country had become elevated in mass with little relative change of height, but to an absolute height of three hundred to one thousand feet above the former level. This elevation had probably been effected in a short time, and caused strong currents to flow through the channels, communicating with the ocean, and through which the waters had drained to their present levels, depositing beds of sand, gravel, pebbles and boulders in the eddies. The coarse deposits of gravel and pebbles, and even boulders, in the valleys near the narrow passes of the Highlands, and wherever the current was confined, seemed strongly to favor the view that the elevation by which these formations were raised above the level of the sea was not so slow in operation as that of the elevation of some other lands, and it may have been sudden.

It has long been supposed, continues Professor Mather, that a great lake formerly existed above the Highlands, and many speculations have been made concerning it, and the rending of the mountain so as to drain it off; but the quarternary and drift deposits found in the valleys indicate that the channel through the Highlands existed nearly the same during these two epochs, as it is at present; so that from these circumstances it is known that it has been an open channel of communication between the Atlantic and St. Lawrence basins during and since these two periods. Most of the rocks in place in the Hudson valley when uncovered from the drift that covers them in many places, show their surfaces to have been ground off, as if by the attrition of heavy moving masses of rocks, and are scratched and grooved.

Prof. Mather found two classes of facts that afford evidence of a shifting of the position of rocks that can be referred to the geographical period, when the formations were being elevated. One of these is a fault in some clay and gravel beds on the west bank of the river, where the clay and sand horizontally stratified were separated by a vertical line on the surface exposed, each abutting against the other, with little disturbance of either, and covered by beds of coarse gravel. The other class is where the slate rocks on the east side of the Hudson valley had been ground down, smoothed, deeply grooved and scratched along the edges, and since the action that had produced these effects the masses of slate had been shifted a few inches in a vertical direction by a slight fault, so that the grooves and scratches of the lower part of the mass were continued quite up to the part that had been elevated. This shift of position, or slight fault, must have been subsequent to the period when the scratches were made.

The drift deposits spoken of are composed of fragments of all the pre-existing rocks exposed to the action of the causes that have contributed to their transportation. They are mostly coarse, composed of blocks, boulders, pebbles, gravel and sand, sometimes loose, but frequently aggregated by argillaceous matter that renders a pick necessary to dig it.

The boulders and blocks are scattered not only over the valleys, plains and hills of moderate elevation, but are found on the peaks of high mountains. The materials of the drift deposits are often far distant, not only from the hills and mountains and every known locality from which they may have been derived, but are often separated from their parent sources by numerous plains, broad valleys, deep lakes or arms of the sea. The valley of the Hudson river through the Highlands shows boulders, blocks and pebbles of all the rocks of the Hudson, Mohawk and Champlain valleys that would not easily grind up by attrition. The plain at West Point, which belongs in part to the drift, is an instructive example of these deposits. In the gravel, pebble and boulder beds at that place, says Prof. Mather, a person may collect a suite nearly complete of all the rocks, and many of their mineral and fossil remains, that are found in place for a distance of two hundred and fifty miles to the north. The valley of Smith's Clove contains boulders of conglomerate like that of Skunnemunk mountain; of granite, gneiss, etc., like the Highlands; grits and slates, like those of the Hudson valley, and pebbles

of the Potsdam sandstone. Boulders of other rocks are found in this clove, but those of the vicinity are most numerous.

The well developed deposit of drift spoken of as being at West Point extends along the gravel terrace from the base of Crow Nest to three miles below West Point, and also on the opposite bank of the Hudson, one-fourth to one-half mile from the river. Specimens of this drift can all be referred to their proper strata, and all are evidently and undoubtedly derived from a northwardly source. The boulders and erratic blocks are especially numerous in the valley on the northern side of the Highlands, as if stopped there by an ancient shore. Stones of many tons weight are not uncommon in the high valleys of the Highlands.

Examples of scratched surfaces may be seen on the top of the mountain between Grassy Point and the iron works at Smith's Clove, a little west of the old turnpike gate, and on ridges farther west. On the road leading south from Haverstraw over the mountains of trap and in returning between High Tor and Little Tor—all these gorges are water worn and abraded where uncovered by the soil that protected the rock from decomposition or slow disintegration. The size of the furrows varies in the same and different localities. Sometimes they are the finest scratches; in a few cases they are deep troughs or furrows. In directions the scratches conform to those in which currents would flow.

The Palisades have been alluded to. From Tappan creek southward the trap range does not present the "mural castellated" front like the Palisades south of there, but it forms a more gentle swell, in some places steep, but of generally moderate acclivity, extending back one or two miles from the shore, with red sandstone exposed in numerous old quarries and small ravines to about two miles north of Nyack, where the trap ranges to the northeast, to Verdrietige Hook. The range gradually increases in height from Bergen Point to the New Jersey line, where the altitude is 539 feet. From there the height of the hills is less across Orangetown and the southern part of Clarkstown, to two miles north of Nyack, where the chain sweeps around to the northeast, at the north end of Tappan Bay, and forms the Hook, which is 668 feet high. The loftiest point of all is High Tor, at Haverstraw, 850 feet. From here the general heights of the summits depress to the west and southwest, until the formation becomes merged in or falls below the red sandstone level along the base of the Highland range.

It is now universally conceded, according to Prof. Mather, that the

trappean rocks show in themselves and in the effects produced by their protrusion between and through the strata of other rocks, undoubted evidence of having been at the time of their protrusion in a highly heated state. If the question were still open to discussion, the facts that may be seen by a careful exploration of the shore between Hoboken and Stony Point, where trap-rock dykes have cut through the strata and overflowed on the top, would afford a mass of evidence sufficient to convince the most skeptical on this subject and demonstrate that the Palisades and the rest of that range of trappean rocks are ancient lavas that have flowed through the rocky fissures in dykes while this part of the continent was still beneath the waters of the ocean.

Two places on the shore near Verdrietige Hook show appearances of enormous dykes of trap-rock penetrating through the sandstone, from two hundred to six hundred feet wide. A mile south, trap has penetrated laterally between the sandstone. Some of the sandstone is almost as hard and compact as jasper, some is purplish red, some is gray, and the trap itself in places is composed in part of the materials of the sandstone. At another locality, about two miles below Haverstraw, on the shore a trap dyke of one foot wide, a fault, and a layer of trap intruded between the strata can be seen. Mr. Cassells, a State geologist, observed one locality west of north of New City where the trap-rock next the sandstone had a distinct columnar structure.

The red sandstone region of Rockland County is referred to in the reports of the State geologists as a fine agricultural district. (The red sandstone, which begins at Stony Point on the north, extends through New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia, into North Carolina on the south.) The land in general is rolling, with a rich, sandy loam, resulting from the disintegration of the subjacent sandstone and its associated shales, marls and limestones. The strata are in general slightly inclined, one to three degrees to the westward, but near the granite rocks of the Grassy Point neighborhood they dip southwardly at a considerable angle, ranging from fifteen to forty-five degrees. This rock occupies that portion of Rockland County from Grassy Point along the base of the Highlands to New Jersey and eastward to the Hudson river, but a portion of its area is covered over by trap-rocks. In color it varies from chocolate-brown through brick-red and gray to white. The useful varieties are the gray and the red conglomerate sandstone, which for many years were quarried extensively in this county.

Prof. Rogers, in a geological report for the State of New Jersey, in considering the sources of this formation of sandstone, says, "that this interesting group of rocks possesses in a striking degree the features of a noble river, taking its rise in the primary region of the Southern States, and meeting the ocean probably at and beyond the outlets of the Raritan and the Hudson."

The limestone formation of Rockland County is well known. It skirts the shore for a mile or more, beginning on the north side of Stony Point, and extends two miles west of Grassy Point, and then disappears beneath the red sandstone formation. Along the west side of the marsh behind Stony Point it is also to be observed. The stone has long been quarried extensively by the Tomkins Cove Stone Company.

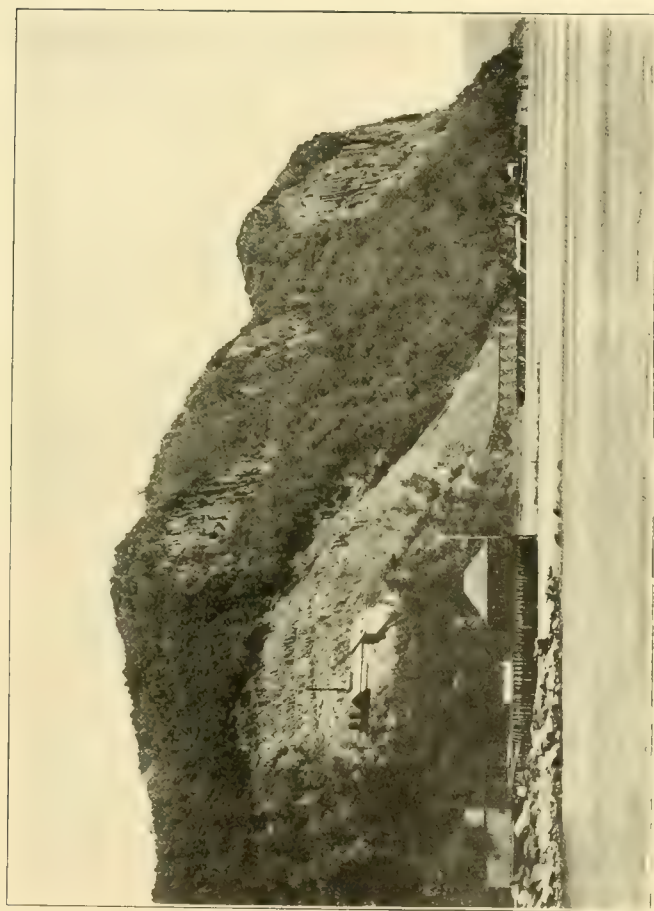
The west and northwest parts of this county belong to the primary region. The rocks consist of gneiss and horn blendic gneiss, granite, sienite, limestone, hornblende, serpentine, augite and trappean rocks. Stony Point is composed of gneissoid rocks, except the northwest point of the peninsula, which is a granite rock. About two acres of the peninsula are covered by the rock, to an estimated mean depth of forty-five feet above high-water mark. Gneiss is the prevailing rock in the Highlands, but granite is abundant.

Iron ore deposits are numerous in the Highland range of mountains. A bed of titaniferous ore is situated on the east side of Bear Hill; magnetic ore at the lower landing at Fort Montgomery. The Forest of Dean mine, west of Fort Montgomery, was opened about 1761. Many openings have been made in the town of Stony Point, but the ore, with few exceptions, has not been found in a profitable state. The Haussan Clever Mine, which is on the same vein as the Forest of Dean Mines, was worked for many years, beginning before the Revolution. Some of the iron for the chains which stretched across the river during the war was mined here, and at the Cedar Pond Furnace, close by, it was made into proper shape. Cannon balls were also manufactured at these works.

About thirty different kinds of minerals have been discovered in this county, but mostly in minute quantities. The mountain ranges have been thoroughly explored in the hope of striking coal or precious ores. As has been shown, the principal contents of the natural storehouses of the county are clay, sand, sandstone, granite and trap-rock.*

The topography of the county is varied. While the northern part

* The foregoing article was mainly compiled from N. Y. State reports.



HOOK MOUNTAIN.

may be described as rugged, the central and southern portions are level or gently rolling. In the northern part of Stony Point town are several of the high peaks of the Highlands, as the Dunderberg, Bear Hill, 1,350 feet; Limp Mountain, Pingyp Mountain and Black Mountain. The portion of this town suitable for agriculture is small. Prominent features of the river side of this town are Iona Island, Caldwell's Landing (or Jones's Point), Stony Point and Grassy Point. Poplopen's kill, at the northern apex, is formed from the outlets of a number of ponds, Poplopen's, Round, Bull, Long, Cranberry and others. In the southern part of the town several streams flow from the hills and form Minisceongo creek, whose serpentine windings may be seen behind Grassy Point. This stream is navigable for a distance and is used by vessels engaged in the brick industry. A cascade in the village of Stony Point is called Flora (originally Florus) Falls, and the same name is given to the stream. The Rockland Print Works are situated on the banks of the Minisceongo, at Garnerville, in the town of Haverstraw. The town of Clarkstown is separated from Haverstraw town by the Haverstraw mountain range, through which are the passes known as the Long Clove and Short Clove, with roads connecting the river shore and the interior. In the town of Clarkstown are the headwaters of the Hackensack, one of the sources of the river being Rockland Lake. Southeasterly through Orangetown flows the Sparkill, the only stream to pass the Palisades. Through this opening the Erie Railroad was first built to the Hudson river, having its terminus at Piermont. The western part of the town of Ramapo is mountainous. In a southeasterly direction through the township flows the Ramapo river, entering the Passaic near Pompton. It receives the outlets of numerous mountain lakes. The term Ramapo was originally given to the entire district, rather than to the river alone, and meaning "many ponds." The Ramapo valley and the connecting Smith's Clove were much used in Revolutionary times as a route for military purposes. The central and eastern part of the town of Ramapo is a fine agricultural country, through which flow the Mahwah and Saddle rivers and headwaters of the Hackensack.

CHAPTER III.

DISCOVERY OF ROCKLAND COUNTY.

Navigators Who Came Before Henry Hudson—The Half Moon's Arrival in the Tappan Zee—The First Red Man Slain—Early Traders—Era of Colonization Begun.

THE history of Rockland County, so far as it is known to us, begins with the fourteenth day of September, 1609. It is the date of the coming of Henry Hudson to the shores of the Tappan Zee. The native lookouts who were peering down from their mountain palisades that morning discovered a strange sail speeding swiftly up the wide river before a strong southeast wind. The aboriginal American had waited long for the coming of his European brother. For thousands of years people had dwelt here unknown to the other half of the world. The Cave Dwellers had lived, built their curious habitations, reared their families, worked out their plans of life and passed away. The Mound Builders, coming up ages afterward, with a still more advanced civilization, with a better idea of the chief end of man, and with better methods and higher purposes, built houses for their families, temples for their God and fortifications against their enemies. These people may have lived up to the best light they were permitted to receive, but for some reason they perished from the earth, leaving only their monuments to show that they had existed. Every trace of their culture had been lost, their successors had fallen back into intellectual darkness, and men and affairs in this land had returned almost to the place of beginning; for in the eternal plan of the universe the time had not yet come. Who can tell what the course of empire had been, to what heights civilization had not risen, or affirm that America had not had her Babylons and Ninevehs? The Chinese discoverers had come and gone a thousand years before. Then the Norsemen had come. In the spring of the year 1000 Lief Erickson, sailing from Greenland, reached Labrador and explored the coast as far southward as Massachusetts, in which section he continued for a year. It is even said that he found Narragansett Bay, and sailed on until he arrived in New York harbor. Other adventurous navigators of the same nationality following Erickson's lead, in subsequent years, explored the coast as far south as Virginia; others planted colonies in New Foundland and Nova Scotia. Not comprehending, however, the true importance of their discoveries, they believed the country to be only a part of Greenland bending around an arm of the sea. For four or five hundred years the Norsemen came and departed.

occasionally establishing small colonies, but, as the ultimate result, failing or being unable to take full advantage of the prize they had found. Their settlements disappeared, and once again the red savage represented the highest enlightenment of a continent. And the Arabians came also. Eight brothers of that nationality, setting sail from Lisbon, previous to 1149, swore they would not return till they had crossed to the farther shore of the unknown sea. They continued on until they arrived at an island inhabited by people of lofty stature and red skin.

The Welsh had also their opportunity. In Cardoc's "Historic of Cambria" it is related that Madoc, son of Owen Gwynnedt, Prince of Wales, with a number of vessels, set sail westward in 1170, and after a voyage of several weeks landed in a strange country, totally different both in its inhabitants and productions from Europe. There they established a permanent settlement. After a time Madoc, returning to Wales, fitted out ten ships and formed a large company ready to go with him to the new country. In what part of the hemisphere they established their new home, history does not reveal; both Virginia and Mexico have been mentioned in connection with this expedition, and no one knows the fate of the colony.

From almost every country of Europe came navigators to the new world. A Pole, John Scolvus, in the service of Denmark, in 1476, visited the coast of Labrador. About the same period Nicolo Zeni left Venice on a voyage, avowedly in quest of new lands, and not in search of a new route to India. He spent a year among the islands of the West, and on his second voyage was joined by his brother, Antonio. The latter continued in the new world for ten years, and upon his death left a narrative of his voyages, accompanied by maps and letters. When these were published, about 1558, it was made plain that he had visited and delineated a considerable portion of the American coast. Ere this the darkness that had enveloped the minds of men began to give way to the light of science. The mariner's compass had helped to solve problems in navigation; the earth was no longer believed to be flat. Europe was preparing for its task.

Columbus set out on his great enterprise, under the patronage of the crown of Spain, on the 3rd of August, 1492. Arriving at the Canary Islands on the 9th, the vessels lay there four weeks, and on the 6th of September sailed in a westerly direction. At 2 o'clock on the morning of Friday, October 12, land was sighted from the Nina, and on the same

morning Columbus, richly clad and bearing the royal banner of Spain, and surrounded by his captains and sailors, also bearing banners, took possession of the island for their Majesties of Castile and Leon, giving thanks to the Most High. He spent three months exploring the islands. When the Santa Maria stranded, from her timbers a fort was built, and forty-three Spaniards were left in charge. On the 16th of January, 1493, Columbus set out on his return in the Nina, having previously lost sight of the Pinta. Upon his arrival home he was received with great honor, and the news of his discovery was heralded throughout Europe. Columbus himself made three more voyages to the new world, and before his death other navigators had also visited the new coast. Somebody—it may have been companions of Columbus—explored the waterways of this part of the State between the years 1500 and 1520. They penetrated even into the valley of the Mohawk. The memorial stone unearched at Pompey, Onondaga county, and bearing the date of 1520, is an evidence of Spanish visitation, and the ruins of a fort on Castle Island, below Albany, have by tradition been assigned to the same period. While the Cabots, under commissions of Henry the Seventh of England, after discovering New Foundland, sailed along the continent, and in a succeeding reign may have still further explored the coast, no claim is made that either of them ever entered the broad bay into which the Hudson river discharges, though the English title to the domain adjacent to the bay begins with the discoveries of the Cabots. Giovanni da Verrazzano, a Florentine in the service of Francis I. of France, anchored his caravel, the Dauphine, at the entrance to the bay in April, 1524. With a small boat a party from the ship entered the river and (quoting from a letter which Verrazzano wrote to King Francis) “found the country on its banks well peopled, the inhabitants not differing much from the others, being dressed out with the feathers of birds of various colors. They came toward us with evident delight,” he continues, “raising loud shouts of admiration, and showing us where we could most securely land with our boat. We passed up the river about half a league, when we found it formed a most beautiful lake, three leagues in circuit, upon which they were rowing thirty or more of their small boats from one shore to the other, filled with multitudes who came to see us.” A violent wind suddenly rising, the party was obliged to return to the ship and came not back again.

Estevan Gomez, a Portuguese, sailing under the flag of Charles V.

of Spain, following Verrazzano in a few months, explored the bay more thoroughly and made a chart of it. He ascended the river for a considerable distance, and carried home a cargo that included furs and red men for slaves. Captain Andre Thevet, from France, viewed New York harbor in the spring of 1556. In succeeding years various expeditions from Spain and France sighted or touched the coast about Manhattan. In the national library at Paris is a manuscript, written about 1545, descriptive of the waters of New York bay, and saying that "the river is salt for more than forty leagues up," and expressing the belief that the waters of the St. Lawrence and this "great river" commingled.

It was an era when adventure was a passion, and to send out ships on voyages of discovery was the pleasure of monarchs. Stories of "voyages," sometimes illustrated, were being published and eagerly read in European countries. Patents were being granted to adventurers to occupy any remote, heathen and barbarous lands "not actually possessed by any Christian prince or people." In 1569 David Ingram and two companions crossed the southeastern portion of this State in making an enforced journey from the Gulf of Mexico to Massachusetts Bay. Though practically the whole eastern coast of North America had been in some degree explored and charted, yet at the opening of the seventeenth century not one European settlement existed between the Gulf of St. Lawrence and Florida. Settlers had come to a few places, and then had disappeared.

Only two years before the coming of the Half Moon to Manhattan, the English settled at Jamestown, Virginia, and almost at the precise time when Hudson was exploring the river which bears his name, Samuel de Champlain, a captain of the French navy, with a special commission from his king, was exploring Lake Champlain, he having founded a colony at Quebec the previous year. Thus the red flag of England was floating over Virginia and the white ensign of France over Canada when the Dutch tri-color was unfurled on this river.

Traditions of former visits of white men must have remained with the tribes on the lower course of the River of the Mountains, and doubtless they had heard of many other vessels that in a long course of years had anchored off the American coast in various places and after trading with the red men had carried away cargoes of furs. Not altogether for the sake of adventure, or in the interest of science, or to extend the knowledge of geography, had so many expeditions been fitted out for

America. Few returned empty handed, as there was a great demand for American furs. But with Henry Hudson arrived a new era for this portion of the new world. Before him was nothing in the nature of progress. After him came civilization, and for all practical purposes the history of this valley begins with his appearance on the scene.

News of his coming had probably preceded him up the river. The night before, the 13th, the strange vessel had cast anchor in sight of and about fifteen miles below Hook Mountain. Indian runners and signals had carried the information along the shores. Whether or not it was considered by the resident Americans a stupendous crisis in history, it was at least an hour of excitement. The idea that they had never heard of the white man or his country across the great deep must not be entertained; but with intense curiosity and much wonderment the movements of the Half Moon were watched from the shores. A clumsy, high-pooed yacht, manned by a score of English and Dutch sea dogs, and flying the Dutch colors, was coming rapidly up the river before the favorable breeze. For eleven days she had been in the river bay below, and stories of her doings had been spread. The Tappans now gathered on the edge of their domain, or out on the river in canoes, saw a two-masted high-sided caravel of about eighty tons' displacement, carrying at her stern a flag composed of three horizontal bars of orange, white and blue. On, into Haverstraw bay she passed, and was lost to view.

The return trip was in a more leisurely manner, and at noon on the first of October the stranger reappeared at the head of Haverstraw Bay and came to anchor near Stony Point. Since an affray which occurred during the week that the ship lay at Sandy Hook, when one of the sailors, while returning in a small boat from a visit to shore with some companions, was killed by an arrow from a party of pursuers, relations of friendship had been re-established and during the voyage up the river the Europeans had tarried pleasantly, occasionally trading with and entertaining the savages. But Hudson had some rough characters in his crew, and the fear that they might provoke a conflict was never absent from his mind. At Penobscot Bay, where he had remained a week, cutting a new foremast and mending his rigging, a part of the ship's company had wantonly despoiled the cabins of the friendly natives. The Captain never set down the reason why one of his men was slain and two wounded in New York harbor, but it is a fair surmise that they had committed some reprehensible act. Out from the shore now came parties

of Indians in canoes. They paddled around the Dutch merchantman with intense curiosity, and clambered up her high sides. They saw the form of a crescent or half moon painted on her stern, and over it in Dutch characters a name that has been translated "Half Moon," though "Crescent" would have served as well. The property of the Dutch East Indian Company, one of the principal trading companies of Europe, she had been put in commission under an Englishman, with Robert Juet, also an Englishman, as clerk and secretary, and a crew of twenty sailors, partly Dutch and partly English, and had been dispatched from Amsterdam with the purpose of searching for a new passage to China and the Indies. They had explored the great river to the head of navigation in the hope that it might prove to be such a passage, and though disappointed in this they had found something far more valuable for posterity.

Here at Stony Point the friendly intercourse between the European sailors and the children of the forest came to an unhappy termination. An agile savage unobserved had climbed up by the rudder and entered a cabin window. He could not resist the opportunity to pilfer, and was making off with a pillow and some clothing when he was detected and shot dead by a mate. All his companions fled precipitously, some jumping from the deck into the river. The goods were recovered by a boat's crew that went in pursuit, but as the men were returning a savage in the water laid hold of the boat and the cook lopped off his hand with a sword. He sank never to rise again. These were the first Indians killed by Europeans on this river. To escape further trouble, the Half Moon weighed and dropped down about five miles, where she anchored for the night, and was undisturbed. But the shedding of blood had changed a "loving people" into bitter enemies, and the next day, when twenty miles farther south, the ship was fiercely attacked. Two canoes filled with armed warriors put out from shore and fired a shower of arrows. The crew replied with bullets, hitting three braves and repulsing the rest. From the nearest point of land more than a hundred foemen now pushed off for the ship, seeking revenge, but a well directed shot from a cannon sent consternation among them and killed two. They were more alarmed by the thundering of the heavy piece of ordnance than even by its terrible execution. The very hills seemed to tremble as they echoed the blast. But regaining courage, nine or ten warriors threw themselves into a canoe, and once more came out to defy their enemies. Again a mighty explo-

sion rent the air; a column of fire and smoke came forth from the side of the ship and a huge projectile accurately aimed crashed through the bark, after penetrating a warrior's body. This was an ordeal that Indian nature could not withstand, and after the dripping survivors had swam ashore under a discharge of musketry which had killed three or four more, no further assault was made.

The Half Moon passed on down and anchored for the night two leagues distant, close to the Hoboken shore. Though Hudson lay there wind bound all the next day, no people came to trouble him, and the next morning, just one month after his arrival at Sandy Hook, having a favorable breeze, he passed down the bay and out to sea.

Hudson was now undecided where to go. The members of his company were of various minds, and savage mutterings came to his ears. His chief officer wished to winter in New Foundland, and continue the search for a new route to Asia in the spring. But Hudson, realizing that the ship was short of provisions and had a crew not amenable to discipline, urged their immediate return to Holland, with a report of what they had already discovered for their employers. At last it was agreed to winter in the British Isles, and on November 7th they arrived safely at Dartmouth, in Devonshire. From there Hudson forwarded his report to Amsterdam. The Half Moon was returned to Holland after a detention by governmental interference in England for eight months; but Hudson's connection with the Dutch East India Company ceased shortly after his arrival in England.

Taking service with an English trading company, the intrepid navigator set out on what proved to be his last voyage, in April of the next year, with a crew of twenty-three sailors, and reached Greenland in June. Steering westward, he discovered the strait now known as Hudson's strait. Passing through this, he entered the great bay which is also called by his name, and which became the foundation of the wealth of the great Hudson Bay Company. Remaining too long in the desolate country, the expedition was reduced to destitute circumstances. A mutiny broke out, and Hudson, his son and a few others who attended to him, were deserted by the rest of the crew of the ship, and were left to perish miserably. The Half Moon was "wrecked and lost" in 1615 on the island of Mauritius, in the East Indies.

Hudson's report excited much interest among the daring merchants of Great Britain and the Netherlands, but the directors of the Dutch

East India Company, concluding that they had no authority under their charter to pursue the matter further, made no effort to possess the new country or monopolize its trade. They were content with their control of the great trade of the East, and their only further desire was a shorter route to that quarter of the globe, which they expended large sums in searching for.

The report which Hudson made of the Hudson river was an unqualifiedly favorable one. "It is as beautiful a land as one can tread upon," he wrote, "and abounds in all kinds of excellent timber." The shores were "as pleasant with grass and flowers and goodly trees as ever they had seen," and he fancied that the mountains had metal in them. Although Spain had laid claim to all America, and France to all that part of it north of the Gulf of Mexico, the States General of Holland now proceeded to lay claim to the river and the adjoining territory, limited only by the indefinite frontier lines of the French occupation on the north, the English colony of Virginia on the south, and to extend westward "as far as the Dutch might be supposed ever to explore." To this region the name of New Netherlands was given, and the river was called Mauritius, after the Stadtholder Prince Maurice. Losing no time, some Holland merchants sent out a vessel as soon as they learned of Hudson's discoveries and the States General's proclamation. The crew included several sailors who the previous year had sailed with Hudson in the Half Moon, and it is surmised that he who was then first officer was now in command. This was the first Dutch ship that came expressly to trade with the Indians of the Mauritius river, and so far as known the intercourse was entirely peaceable. In 1611 Hendrick Christiaensen and his partner, Adriaen Block, chartered a ship in Holland and made a voyage to the Mauritius river, and on their return besides a goodly cargo, brought two young Indians as specimens of the resident Americans. In 1612 three merchants of Amsterdam, one of whom was a director in the East India Company, sent out two vessels, the *Fortune* and the *Tiger*, under the command of Christiaensen and Block, to trade along this river. Other Dutch merchants the next year joined in the trade, and the commerce that has continued from then to now was fairly opened. Captain Block's ship, the *Tiger*, was destroyed by fire at Manhattan Island in the fall of 1713, and he and his crew spent the winter there in huts which they built, and busied themselves meanwhile in constructing a new vessel, which was called the *Restless*, and was the first ship ever launched

on this river. In this small vessel Block proceeded to explore the East river and Long Island Sound. He discovered the Connecticut river and Narragansett bay. That winter also he and his crew spent on Manhattan Island, and from that time there was a Dutch colony there. A large storehouse was built, and thither the Indians began to take their furs.

References: The Story of the States, by Elbridge S. Brooks, E. H. Roberts' New York, O'Callahan's and Brodhead's Histories.

CHAPTER IV.

THE ABORIGINES.

Tribes of the Lower Hudson Valley—The Tappans and Haverstraws—Characteristics and Mode of Life—Bountifully Supplied by Nature—Principles of Government and Evidences of Religion.

THE Indian tribes of the Hudson river belonged to three great natural divisions, the Mahicans, the Lenni Lenapes and the Iroquois, each of which divisions was composed of a confederacy or league of tribes. These tribes in turn were each composed of minor tribes or clans. The Iroquois confederacy originally included five nations, the Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas and Senecas, but the Tuscaroras, who had long lived in North Carolina, were permitted to settle in this province and become members of the federation which was thenceforth called the Six Nations. Their territory extended from the Catskills to the St. Lawrence, and from the Hudson to Lake Erie. The tribes belonging to the Mahican federation possessed the whole east bank of the river from the headwaters to the sea, and their lands extended to the Connecticut, if not beyond. A powerful people, their influence was proportionate to the commanding situation. The country of the Lenni Lenapes, or Delawares, as they were sometimes called, extended from the Catskill mountains to the sea, along the west bank of the Hudson, and from that river to the Potomac and beyond. Their capital, or seat of government, was at the place now covered by the city of Philadelphia. The sub-nation along the west bank of the lower "Mahicanituk," as they called our river, had the general name of Unamis. The chieftaincies included the Navisink or Neversinks, at or near Sandy Hook, the Raritans, who gave their name to a river; the Hackensacks, the Aquaacknocks, whose hunting grounds were in the section where the city of Paterson has grown up; the Tappans, who lived on the shore of the Tappan Zee

and in the country extending west from it, their northern boundary being Hook Mountain, and their domain extending southward to the lands of the Hackensacks; and finally the Haverstraws, on the shore of Haverstraw Bay.

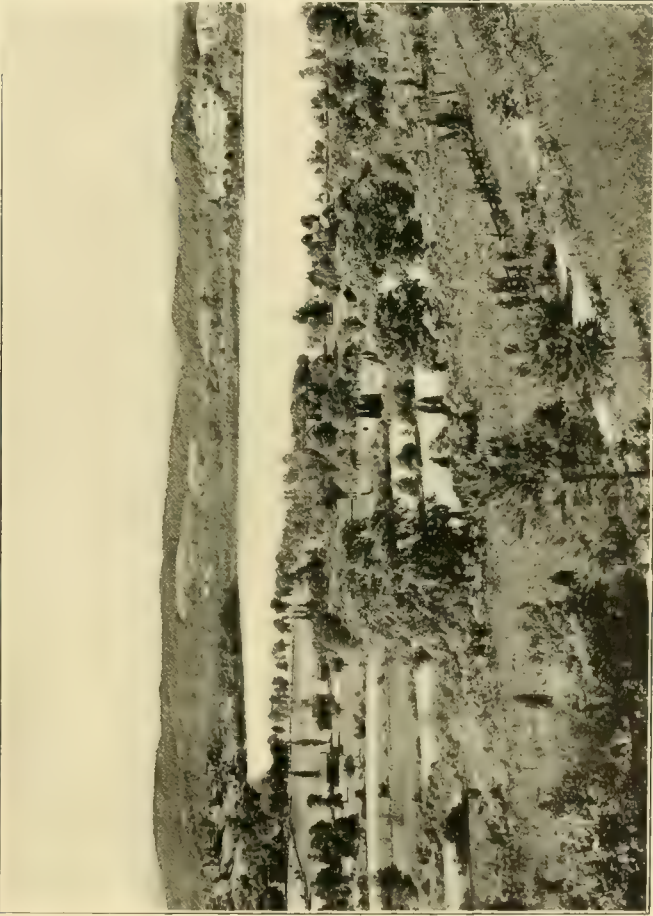
For the reason that Staten Island appears to have been owned in partnership by the Raritans, the Hackensacks and the Tappans, there must have been a special alliance between these three tribes. It is apparent that the Tappans were influential and powerful, and occupied a geographical position of great advantage, not only abounding in fish and game, but also well situated for defence against their occasional enemies across the river. The Palisades were impregnable, and by concentrating at the few places where attacks could be made from the river, they were always able to defend themselves from that quarter. They lived in a natural fortress. At or near the several openings in the Palisades were their principal villages, the chief one of all being near the present site of Tappan village. The name of their sachem in 1645 was Sesekemu, and at a later period Taghkospeno filled that position. A neighboring chief contemporaneous with Sesekemu was Oritany of the Hackensacks, who lived to a great age and was a noted character. A man of moderation, sagacity and benevolence, he won respect from all who came in contact with him. His influence over other chieftains was very great, and he also earned the confidence of the white settlers in an exceptional degree. The lands of his chieftaincy included the present Jersey City, Hoboken and the lower part of the Hackensack river country.

North of the Tappans were the Haverstroos (or Haverstraws), with a domain now covered by the townships of Haverstraw and Stony Point. About 1666 they sold a large tract of their river front to Balthazer De Harte, a New York merchant, and left him in undisputed possession. In 1683 they sold another large tract to Stephen Van Cortlandt. This extended "from the south side of a creek called Senkapough, west to the head thereof, then northerly along the high hills as the river runneth to another creek called Assinapink, thence along the same to Hudson's river." The Haverstraws were the tribesmen who had the trouble with the crew of the Half Moon while that vessel was anchored near Stony Point in 1609. For a long period Saekagkemeck was their sachem, for he signed both the De Hart and Van Cortlandt deeds. Other prominent men in the tribe were Roansameck, Kewegham and Kackeros. The Haverstraws were also called the Rumachenack tribe.

The immediate neighbors of the Haverstraws on the north were the Waoraneks, whose northern boundary was Danskammer point, and across the river the Kitchawangs and the Sint Sings, belonging to the Mahican nation. In the section now occupied by the villages of Dobbs Ferry and Tarrytown lived the Weehquaesgecks, and south of these were the Manhattans. The Kitchawangs had a castle at the mouth of the Croton river that was very formidable. It stood at the entrance, or neck, of Teller's Point, and near the site is the Van Cortlandt family cemetery. They had another village at Peekskill which they called Sackhoes. The Sint Sings' stronghold was at Ossining, and the Manhattans had a fort on Spuyten Duyvel creek.

All the Hudson river tribes were powerful; the three great nations or confederacies to which they belonged were as prominent among the other nations of the continent as is the Empire State among other States in the present era. Originally the Mahicans and Lenapes (or Delawares) were superior in war-like strength to the Iroquois (or Five Nations), but after the advent of the Dutch and English the Iroquois could more easily obtain firearms, which gave them an advantage over their brethren of the lower Hudson.

In the day of their supremacy the red men of the Hudson were the noblest and best of their race. Much in their general character can be admired, when one considers the intellectual darkness in which they lived. Supposedly children of Adam, like the new comers from across the sea, why had the Americans remained behind with those who dwelt in tents, and the Europeans advanced? What will account for the difference between them? While they had learned scarcely anything in mechanics, and very little in agriculture and mining, yet, living so close to nature all these ages, they had learned something from the birds and trees and running brooks. According to their own philosophy they had everything necessary to their happiness and well-being; other things they did not have because such were unnecessary; they had discarded or left alone what they could do without. While the white man's desire had been for accumulation, the red man's rule of life had been elimination; the gold which one prized so highly was uncoveted by him to whom the bulging storehouses of nature were free. Nature with very little assistance was able to supply the wants of her children, and they were willing that she should. As for their moral side, the race had not a few elements of nobility. Out of their inner consciousness they had evolved



VIEW OF ROCKLAND LAKE.

certain principles and set up certain standards. No tables of stone had ever been handed down from heaven to them, yet they believed in the Great Spirit, and hoped for a blessed immortality.

With no examples within their view of knowledge, they had originated a form of government whose corner-stone was the liberty of the individual. It was the prototype of our present republican institution. They founded independence and effected a union of States; the voice of the people was supreme. They had great self-control and self-respect; all have read of the dignity of their bearing. In diplomacy they matched the white man; in oratory they were sometimes superb. While they often forgave an injury, they never forgot a kindness.

The Iroquois are known to have carried their arms westward to the Mississippi, and southward to the Carolinas. They even entered Mexico. La Salle found them in Illinois, and Captain John Smith encountered a fleet of their canoes on the Chesapeake. But powerful as were the Iroquois, the river Indians were fully if not more than their equals. The Mahical and Unamis were never as nations driven away from their council fires, and their deeds for land along this river were ever accepted by the white men as good titles.

The Tappans, Haverstraws and Hackensacks were generous and affable to the foreign people who came among them, but were naturally reserved, and apt to retaliate for injuries and to retain resentments a long time. They took remarkable care of one another in sickness. In their councils they seldom if ever interrupted or hastily contradicted. Their language was lofty and sententious; if several came to a foreigner's house and he gave food to but one, the recipient would divide it equally among his companions. The Indians were generally straightforward with those who were of the same mind. Many incidents could be related to show wherein they manifested commendable traits. If a rattlesnake gave notice with his rattle when they approached, they would not harm him, but if he rattled after they had passed they immediately returned and killed him. Their chief employments were hunting, fishing and fowling, and making canoes, bowls and other wooden and earthen ware. In earthen bowls they boiled their water. They also made hats, ropes, mats and baskets. The women's duties consisted in preparing the meals, planting corn, parching or roasting it, pounding it to meal in mortars, and making bread.

The Indians would not allow the mentioning of the name of a friend after his death. They sometimes streaked their faces with black when in mourning, but when their affairs went well they painted their faces red. They were great observers of the weather and of the habits of birds and animals; they studied the virtues of roots and herbs. When a person of note died far from home his companions would carry his corpse to be buried among his kin. They were exceedingly faithful in visiting and keeping in order the graves of their dead. They called persons and places by the names of things remarkable. The marriage ceremony was sometimes thus: the relations and friends being present, the bridegroom delivered a bone to the bride, she an ear of Indian corn to him, meaning that he was to provide meat, she bread. In case of subsequent disagreement and divorce, the children went with the party that loved them best. They had great respect for age and were kind to the decrepit. Strict observers of the rights of property, they apparently had no great desire for large possessions. Their wigwams were mostly together in villages, but tribes having large territory moved about in the summer season for pleasure or in pursuit of game. When a company traveled together they generally followed each other in silence and in single file.

In person they were upright and of straight limbs; their fine figures distinguished American Indians from the savages of all other lands. Their bodies were strong, seldom crooked; their features regular, their countenances strong; in temper, cool and deliberate. Never in haste to speak, the Indian waited for a certainty that the person addressing him had spoken all he wished to say. When in council his behavior was particularly dignified. Every one entitled to speak was heard in his turn, according to rank of years, or wisdom, or service to his nation or tribe. The youthful were expected to keep silence altogether.

Liberty, as has been said, was the corner-stone of their system of government; the utmost liberty with the least compulsion. Freedom and independence were principles they had learned from Nature, after which they patterned their lives. Slavery was dreaded more than death and they themselves never made slaves of inferior races. Their children were trained up to cherish the idea of freedom and that they were freemen. Accordingly, they were seldom punished with blows, but appealed to with reason. The parents said that the mischief their children might do would not be serious until their own reason and sense of right would mod-

ify their conduct. Their penal code was limited; they had a system of punishments peculiarly their own. Atonements were in most cases voluntary. The respect which they accorded to their chiefs and sachems was voluntary; nothing of the kind could be exacted under their idea of independence and personal freedom. Respect was earned by merit, and not based on fear. Age was revered. The sachems directed in this councils and had the power to sign deeds when land was disposed of.

When making treaties or when presenting formal complaints to the white men, they had a singular custom, perhaps designated to help their memories, perhaps to give force to what they said. They had belts and strings of black and white wampum, and sometimes sticks of wood, each of which would correspond to one count in the indictment, or to one phase of the subject under discussion. The Indians treasured these belts when delivered to them in treaties. Illustrative of the use made of the belts and strings, the speech of a chief of this section at a council fire with English governors may be quoted: The chief spoke in English: "Brethren: It is now more than two years since we heard of our cousins, the Delawares, taking up the hatchet against the English. We invited them and they came to a great meeting at our town of Otsaningo. We then gave our cousins a belt a fathom long, and twenty-five rows in breadth, and desired them to lay down the hatchet that they had taken up against the English, and to be easy with them. And if they would follow this advice we told them that they would live in peace until their heads were white with age; otherwise, it might not be so with them. Not hearing from our cousins for some time what they did in consequence of this belt, we sent to them two other belts, one of sixteen and the other of twelve rows, desiring them once more to be easy with their brethren, the English, and not to strike them any more: But still we heard nothing from them; indeed, some time afterward, we understood the Delawares would say that the Indians at Otsanigo had grey eyes, and even should have had the hatchets struck into our heads. We now want to know what is become of these belts; maybe they may be under ground, or they may have swallowed them down their throats. . . . Brethren: As our enemies have been loth to give any answer to these belts, we now desire that they may let us know in public conference what they have done with them." The old chief here put down a string of wampum to emphasize his inquiry and the conclusion of his remarks.

The generally expressed opinion of the early white critics for the religion of the red men was one of contempt, but time has somewhat modified that view. If by the word religion is meant assent to certain creeds, or the observance of forms and ceremonies, such as are common among us, then it may be said that the Indian had no religion. But if by religion we understand a belief in a Supreme Being, in an over-ruling providence, in a hunger after knowledge of Him, and a firm belief in a happy life beyond the grave for those who order themselves right in this life, then it must be admitted that the Indian had a religion. In 1737 a young man who had acquired great familiarity with the Indian language was sent by the Governor of Virginia on a journey to Onondaga, the capital of the Six Nations. He set out in February on his five-hundred mile journey through the wilderness, accompanied by a Dutchman and three Indians. When they were one hundred and fifty miles on their journey they came into a narrow valley, both sides of which were formed of high mountains, where the snow lay about three feet deep. The trail led along the slope of one of these mountains, and to keep from slipping the travelers were obliged to dig footholds in hard places. As they crept on it happened that the old Indian's foot slipped, and the root of the bush by which he held breaking, he slid down the mountain side as from the roof of a house. By a strange fortune he was stopped in his fall by the stout string which fastened his pack catching on the stump of a tree. When he was rescued by his companions, and all had descended in safety to the valley, it was discovered that had the Indian gone a few feet farther, he would have fallen over a precipice, rocky and vertical, at the foot of which were bare boulders. The Indian was astonished and turned pale. Then, with outstretched arms and great earnestness, he spoke these words: "I thank the great lord and governor of this world in that he had mercy upon me, and has been willing that I should live longer." The Indian words, the Governor's commissioner, understanding them perfectly, set down at once in his journal.

The next year the same commissioner went on another journey to Onondaga, in company with three other woodsmen. It happened that an Indian came to them in the evening, who had neither shoes, stockings, knife, gun, shirt nor hatchet; in a word, he had nothing but an old torn blanket and some rags. On the white men inquiring whither he was going, he answered, to Onondaga. Said the interpreter afterward

in writing the account: "I knew him and asked how he would undertake to go a journey of three hundred miles so naked and unprovided, having no provisions, nor any arms to kill game for his sustenance? He answered that he had been amongst enemies, and had been obliged to save himself by flight, and so had lost all, but he told me very cheerfully that 'God fed everything which had life, even the rattlesnake, and that God would provide in such a manner that he should come to Onondaga alive; he knew for certain that he should go there; that God was always with the Indians in the wilderness, because they always cast their cares on him, but that contrary to this, the Europeans always carried their bread with them.' He was an Onondaga, his name was Anontagketa. The next day we traveled in company, and the day following I provided him with a knife, hatchet, flint and tinder, also shoes and stockings, and sent him before me to give notice to the council at Onondaga that I was coming, which he truly performed, being got thither three days before me."

Apparently, a life of dissipation and ease, sometimes of appetite, satiety, indolence and sleep, seemed to be the ambition of the average Indian; but sometimes a desire for better things was observed. An old king who was dying gave utterance to these words in the presence of men able to take account of them: "It is my desire that my brother's son should come to me and hear my last words; for him have I appointed king after me. . . . My brother's son, this day I deliver my heart into your bosom; and mind me. I would have you love what is good and keep good company; refuse what is evil and by all means avoid bad company. Be sure always to walk in a good path and if any should speak any evil of Indians or Christians, do not join it, but look at the sun from the rising of it until the setting of the same. In speeches that shall be made between the Indians and the Christians, if any wrong or evil thing be spoken, do not join with that; but join with the good. When speeches are made, do not you speak first; be silent and let all speak before you, and take good notice what each one speaks, and when you have heard all, join to that which is good. . . . Brother's son, you have heard what has passed; stand up in time of speeches, stand in my steps and follow my speeches; this do and what you desire in reason shall be granted. Why should you not follow my example? I have had a mind to be good and do good, therefore do you the same. Sheoppy and Swampis were to be kings in my stead, but understanding by my doctor that

Sheoppy secretly advised him not to cure me, and they both being with me, that I myself saw that they were given more to drink than to take notice of my last words,—for I had a mind to make a speech to them, and to my brethren, the English commanders, therefore I refuse them to be kings after me, and have now chosen my brother's son, Iahkursoe, in their stead to succeed me. . . . Brother's son, I advise you to be plain and fair with all, both Indians and Christians, as I have been; I am very weak, otherwise I would have spoken more."

The sub-divisions of the local tribes, as of the nations, were numerous, and government was of the simplest character consistent with good order. It might be said that every man was a law unto himself, yet he must not be lawless. The head of every tribe, the sachem, was its representative in the councils with neighboring tribes, or at the representative assemblies of the nation. In all cases not requiring concerted action the tribes had independent discretion. Each nation had its emblem or totem, the form of which they drew upon rocks and trees as they paused, either to give notice to friends or warning to enemies. The Indians' totems corresponded to the flags of modern nations. The totem of the nation to which the Tappans and Haverstraws belonged was a wolf. The chief possessions of the red brethren were held in common. Their land was never divided among individuals; the ownership was in the tribe, and was disposed of by the sachem with the consent of the people.

There is but little data to estimate Indian populations. The total was not so large as might be supposed. The strength of the Six Nations did not exceed ten thousand, and there are reasons for believing that the numbers of the Mahican and Lenape federations were but little greater respectively. The Hackensacks, who were more numerous than the Tappans or Haverstraws, numbered about one thousand. All belonged to the great Algonkin family, which occupied the Atlantic coast from the Savannah river to Labrador. The dialects of all were related, and evidently at some distant day they had spoken the same tongue. The area occupied by the Algonkin family was more extensive than that of any other linguistic stock in America.

Nature provided with a liberal hand for the necessities of life. In the forests were great plenty of deer, beside wild turkeys, many partridges, wild pigeons flew in flocks of thousands. In the rivers and lakes and along the smaller water courses, especially in the spring and autumn, were all kinds of fowl in great numbers—swans, geese, ducks, teal and

brant, which fell easy prey to woodsmen. Also in the country were panthers, bears, wolves and foxes. Fish abounded in the river, particularly pike, eels, perch, lampreys, suckers, catfish, sunfish, shad, bass. In the spring, in May, a man with a hook and line, could catch in an hour, it is said, as many perch as ten or twelve persons could eat. The virgin soil yielded abundantly with slight encouragement. All the natural productions were luxuriant. Where the primeval forests had not been ravaged by fires, the trees were large and beautiful. The Indians sometimes burned the woods to more easily hunt deer. Wild fruit, berries and nuts were abundant in season: cherries, plums, mulberries, currants, gooseberries, raspberries, cranberries and strawberries; chestnuts, beech-nuts, walnuts, butternuts, hazelnuts. Innumerable medicinal plants were also to be found, and the Indians knew the properties of many of them and were skillful in using them.

To keep their bodies comfortable in winter our predecessors in the land were well provided with furs and skins. For their feet they had deerskin mocassins; and other garments were composed of the same material. From the skins of beavers, martins, minks, squirrels or raccoons, they fashioned shirts, jackets and robes that were often handsome. It largely depended upon the taste of the individual Indian how he was attired. For their couches they had undressed deer, panther or bear skins. The white settlers, who learned many things about hunting and general woodcraft from the children of the forests, adapted the buckskin garments and mocassins when it was necessary for them to be much in the forests. They could travel much farther when so attired, with less fatigue. For his head the Indian disdained any covering. It was a matter of personal pride to be physically robust and hardened; to be men of great endurance, agility, athletic, muscular. As a warrior he must not only be fearless, but equal to every physical requirement. From his point of view he was a high type of physical manhood, and must not demean himself by manifesting weakness; he must endure torture without flinching and laugh in the face of danger. No one will challenge the fact that the North American Indians, and especially the members of the Hudson river tribes, were the masters and superiors of all other savage races. Even among the civilized races there were but few able to cope with them physically.

Perhaps to add to their fierce aspect, they arranged their thick black hair in a peculiar manner. Cropping it close on the sides, they left a

lock of about the width of three fingers, and two or three fingers in length, and being coarse and thick it stood on end like a rooster's comb. It was natural for them to have no beard. Their skin they painted red, blue or black at times; black was a sign of mourning; red, when applied in a certain way, meant war. When they traveled they took along some of their maize, a kettle, a wooden bowl and a spoon; these they packed together and hung on their backs. When they wished to build a camp-fire they obtained a flame quickly by rubbing certain kinds of wood together in a particular way.

In time of war the savage in them was supreme. Cruel then beyond expression, they slew without mercy and died without a sign of fear. Captives were subjected to fearful tortures. War was to the death and unspeakably horrible as they conducted it. This was the least admirable side of the Indian character. Their weapons, before the white man gave them firearms, were bows and arrows, spears, clubs, hatchets and knives. Their arrow heads were made of flint, bone or copper, sharpened, barbed and poisoned. When shot with power these would penetrate a body like a musket ball. Their castles or strongholds were formed of heavy wooden stockades. When arranged to withstand a long siege, they contained living quarters, store houses and water supply. To these the women and children would hasten in case of attack, and the men also, if outnumbered by the enemy. Pride made Indians brave. None cared to show the white feather or to be called a coward. By a custom that was the same as law, every able-bodied man with every boy over the age of fourteen was a defender of his tribe or nation. War was declared after full consideration and unanimous decision. On the battle-field the chiefs were obeyed implicitly; they were chosen for their valor; but at the council fire of the tribe every member had an equal voice.

The Indians made their houses for the most part of bark, with a frame work of poles, water tight and warm, and kindled fires in the middle of them. When a son or daughter was married, an addition was built and a new hearth-fire lighted. Thus some of the houses became in the course of years very long, and a number of fires burned therein, each representing a branch of the family. From bark they also made light canoes; by hollowing out and shaping the trunks of suitable trees they constructed larger ones. Some of these could carry ten or twelve persons. Although there were no courts of justice for the punishment of

offences, there was still a court of public opinion, and established customs that could not be disregarded. Crimes against individuals were avenged by the parties aggrieved; murder was avenged by the next of kin. But the colonists have left recorded their testimony that "not half so many murders and villainies were committed among the savages as among Christians."

"O poor me!
 Who am going out to fight the enemy,
 And know not whether I shall return again,
 To enjoy the embraces of my children
 And my wife.
 O poor creature!
 Whose life is not in his own hands,
 Who has no power over his own body,
 But tries to do his duty,
 For the welfare of his nation.
 O thou Great Spirit above,
 Take pity on my children
 And on my wife.
 Prevent their mourning on my account,
 Grant that I may be successful in this attempt,
 That I may slay my enemy,
 And bring home the trophies of war
 To my dear family and friends,
 That we may rejoice together.
 O take pity on me!
 Give me strength and courage
 To meet my enemy.
 Suffer me to return again to my children
 And to my wife,
 And to my relations.
 Take pity on me and preserve my life,
 And I will make thee a sacrifice.

Going to war was termed figuratively "taking up the hatchet." The subject of grievance, the matter of alliances, and the messages brought by runners were considered in solemn conclave, and the chiefs would, the cause being sufficient, appeal in eloquent orations to the patriotism and courage of their braves: "The bones of your murdered countrymen lie uncovered and demand revenge at our hands; their spirits loudly call upon us, and we must obey; still greater spirits watching over our honor inspire us to go in pursuit of the slayers of our brethren. Let us follow their trail and devour them! . . . Do not sit inactive. . . Follow the impulse of your hereditary valor. Paint your faces, fill your quivers, make the woods echo with shouts for revenge! Comfort the spirits of the deceased and revenge their blood." Rising, a war dance would begin, participation in this being equivalent to volunteering for

the expedition. The war song of the Lenapes has thus been translated and recorded in history:

References: Ruttenber's "Indian Tribes of Hudson's River." Smith's History of New Jersey. "The Old New York Frontier"—Halsey. N. Y. Historical Society collections.

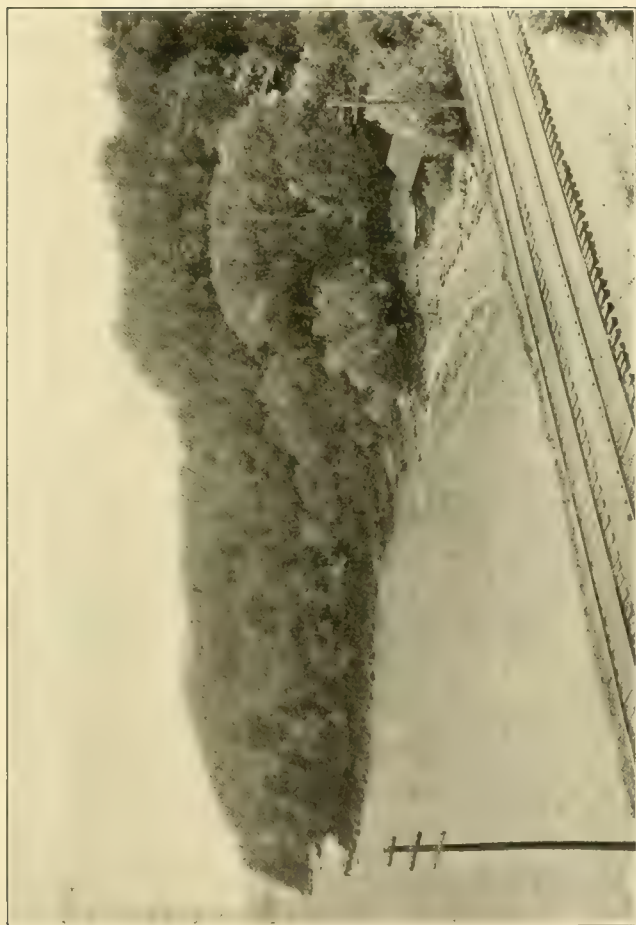
CHAPTER V.

INDIAN WARS.

Encroachments of the Dutch—The Colony at Vriesendaël—Consequences of Stealing an Indian's Beaver Coat—Tappans Driven from Home By Mohawks—Massacres at Pavonia By Dutch Soldiers—Allied Tribes Take Revenge—Vriesendaël Destroyed.

THE denizens of the forest not only treated the newcomers from across the sea in a friendly manner, but were generous and helpful in many ways. They saw the colony on Manhattan Island increase in population, and viewed with indifference the establishing of trading posts at several other places. For many years peace and amity existed between the two races. Such land as the settlers desired they could obtain for a trifle, for the owners had plenty more. Thus, Manhattan Island changed hands in consideration of the payment of sixty guilders, or about twenty-four dollars, and the Manhattans, retiring northward, left the Dutch in full and undisputed possession of what is now the most valuable tract of land on the continent. But while they lived at peace with the newcomers, the Indians had troubles of their own. The Mahicans and the Mohawks on the upper Hudson disturbed the public peace for about two years, so that most of the Christians fled from Fort Orange to Manhattan and remained until the two nations smoked the pipe of peace again.

Encouraged by the traders at Manhattan, the tribes began to spend much time in the hunting field, killing and trapping wild animals for their furs, the trading post offering a market for all that could be obtained. During the year 1632 the exports from New Netherlands amounted to more than fifteen thousand skins, the greater number of which were beaver. The Indians on the lower river made frequent trips to the fort, but it was the custom of the interior or distant nations to make the journey annually with their supplies of furs. Such was the good feeling in this quarter, the fort on Manhattan Island was allowed to go to decay, open at every side and the guns off their carriages. The Dutch govern-



KINGS FERRY, WESTERN END.

ment at Amsterdam gave a special right for exclusive trade with the natives to one firm, but many private persons, disregarding this charter, engaged openly in traffic, and were generally able to secure skins of a quality superior to those which were offered to the company. Some of the free traders were servants of the company, but, becoming rich, resigned from the employment and established large plantations. The profits of the fur trade were very great, and in the opinion of the newcomers, now was the time to make their fortunes. Spreading themselves through the country, they built cabins and engaged in trade with the Indians, who were frequent visitors at their doors. These encroachments, unnoticed at first, in time became numerous and annoying. Even an Indian, however unselfish, could not bear with equanimity the sight of his corn being trampled down by a stranger's cattle. Then the authorities at New Amsterdam, now confident of their physical ability to enforce the measure, levied a tax of corn, furs or wampum against the original owners of the soil, to help defray, as they said, the expense of maintaining their military establishment, by which the Indians were protected from their enemies. These matters were naturally the subject of serious consideration at the council fires of the tribes and nations, and signs of the first estrangement began to appear. Reports also reached the river tribes from Fort Orange that their old-time enemies, the Mohawks, were being supplied with firearms, while they of the Unamis and Mahican nations were unable to obtain any. Director-General Kieft had forbidden the furnishing of firearms to the natives under pain of death, but he either countenanced the act, or was unable to prevent the Mohawks (of the Six Nations) from receiving weapons, which placed them at a great advantage over all other nations. The river tribes appealed again and again to the Dutch authorities against this discrimination, but without avail. On the other hand, any Mohawk who had collected twenty beaver skins could exchange them for a musket at any free trader's house in his country, and the equivalent of ten or twelve guilders would buy a pound of powder. Many private individuals, desirous of obtaining the large profits that accrued from the traffic, imported firearms and ammunition from Holland in quantities and disposed of them to the Mohawks, who in a short time became well equipped, while the river tribes remained comparatively defenceless. The natural consequence followed immediately; the thunderbolts of war were loosed and warriors from the Long House of the Six Nations scattered death and de-

struction among their neighbors along the St. Lawrence and Great Lakes.

While the Tappans, in common with the Mahicans and the other river Indians, were brooding over annoyances and particularly the partiality of the Dutch for the Iroquois federation, Director-General Kieft determined to exact the tribute of corn, furs and wampum. In pursuit of this object, he sent out an armed sloop on a collecting expedition, first to the Tappans. When he landed and made known his errand, a council was called, and in the course of the proceedings the agent of the Dutch West India Company was clearly and emphatically informed as to the state of mind existing in that tribe. "The Sakema of the fort," exclaimed the chiefs of the Tappans, "must be a mean fellow; he has not invited them to come and live here, that he should now take away their corn." The tax was not collected, nor was any violence offered the Indians.

For the first time the Tappans manifested ill-will toward their white brethren, and were evidently prepared to resist an attempted enforcement of the proclamation of taxation. With dignity one of the chiefs reproached the Dutch for being "men of blood," alluding to some uncalled for deeds in another part of the country, and another warrior intimated that though they might be strong on the water, they were weak on the land. Upon his return to Manhattan the Director-General, feeling that he had cause for alarm, issued an order for the troops and fort to be made ready for defence, for every civilian to provide himself with a gun, and for the people at large upon hearing the discharge of three cannon to hasten at once to the fort. Up to this time the Hudson river Indians had kept their war hatchets buried; no wrong had ever come to the white people from them. Though a crisis had now arisen, a governor less headstrong and tyrannical than Kieft might have saved his countrymen much sorrow.

A trifling incident, which, especially in the then inflamed state of affairs, should have been overlooked, was made the excuse for an atrocious assault against the Indians. One morning some swine were missing from the plantation of Captain De Vries, on Staten Island, and though the offence was at once charged against the nearest Indians, the Raritans, inquiry would have disclosed that some of the Director-General's own men had committed the depredation. Forthwith, a force of fifty soldiers was sent against the nearest Raritan village, and although the Indians offered to make good a loss for which they were in no wise responsible,

the soldiers fell upon them, killed or butchered several of their number and burnt their crops. This occurred in the year 1640.

The previous spring Captain David P. De Vries, sailing from Fort Amsterdam in his own sloop, on a journey to Fort Orange, to see the country, arrived the first evening at Tappan (now Piermont), where he found a beautiful plateau, some two hundred feet above the river, where the hills fall back. Pleased with the place, he opened negotiations with the Tappan tribe for its purchase, and at a small cost became the owner. Having been on good terms with all the Indians on the lower river, he was the more easily able to make the purchase. The tract consisted of about five hundred acres, and besides having the advantage of being at no great distance from Fort Amsterdam, contained an extensive bed of clay. David Peterson De Vries had been a resident of the country since 1630, when, coming from Holland, he and seven of the Directors of the Dutch West India Company, among whom was Van Rensselaer, formed an association for planting a colony on the Delaware river, where they intended to raise tobacco and grain, and, with a ship that they owned, prosecute whale fishery. Although the Company considered this enterprise an invasion of its vested rights, the colony was allowed to remain. But, two years later, Indians in revenge for some wrong descended on the place and destroyed it, and all the inhabitants, thirty-four in number, were massacred. De Vries, returning from a voyage to Holland, found the bones of his murdered people unburied and his buildings in ruins. A few years before his visit to Tappan he had purchased land on Staten Island, some Holland merchants being partners in the transaction, and had founded a colony there with immigrants from the old country. He hoped that this new place would be more secure from attack than the old one on the Delaware, which had been destroyed. While his own private residence and estate was situated on the bank of the Hudson above Fort Amsterdam, he had never until now sailed up the river. His estate on Manhattan Island was a large one, with "hay enough for two hundred head of cattle." His intention in buying Tappan was to send a company of immigrants there—not to make the place his own abode. The colonists came in the autumn of 1641, and at once proceeded to erect habitations. This was the first white settlement within the territory of Rockland county. The name Vriesendale was given to it. Frederick De Vries, Secretary of the City of Amsterdam, Holland, and a manager of the West India Company, was a brother and

partner of Captain David De Vries. The next year another colony was established, within an hour's walk of this one, by Myndert Myndertsen van der Horst, from Utrecht, Holland. The second plantation extended from Newark Bay north toward Tappan, and included the valley of the Hackinsack river. The headquarters of the settlement was but five or six hundred paces from the principal village of the Hackensack Indians. Each settlement was essentially a trading post.

Meanwhile, the Raritans had not forgotten their treatment at the hands of Kieft's soldiers, and, after the manner of their race, had been thirsting for revenge. When a favorable moment arrived, they descended upon De Vries' plantation at Staten Island and destroyed his buildings and killed four of his planters. Kieft, for some reason, sent no troops against the Raritans, though the provocation was greater than when he dispatched the punitive expedition of the preceding year; but instead he offered a reward of ten fathoms of wampum for the head of every Raritan. So far as known, the reward was claimed but once, when an Indian of the Haverstraw tribe appeared at the fort with the head of a dead man fastened to the end of a stick. Tradition says it was the head of the chief of the Raritans, and that the Indian who brought it was a chief of the Haverstraws, in testimony of his friendship for the "Swannekins," as the Dutch were called by the red men. After having thus squared accounts, the Raritans and the authorities at the fort came to terms and smoked the pipe of peace; and not even when all the other tribes raised the hatchet against the pale faces did the Raritans break the pledge they then gave.

Until 1643 the Tappans and Haverstraws lived in peace with the newcomers. Then the stealing of a beaver-skin coat from an Indian at Hackinsack was the immediate occasion for an outbreak. Dutch liquor had begun to do its work among the aborigines, most of whom, unable to resist its fascination, would sacrifice anything they possessed to obtain it. For the sake of easy and profitable traffic, the colonists had been willing to give to the Indians what proved in many instances disastrous alike to savage and to settler. A young Hackinsack had gone to the trading post and stupified himself with rum. Upon coming somewhat to his senses, and missing his fine coat, he accused the "Swannekins" of stealing it and swore vengeance. Captain De Vries at that moment was coming from his plantation at Vriesendale through the woods, and meeting the intoxicated and enraged brave, was informed of what

had happened. "You are a good chief," said the Hackinsack; "when we visit you we get milk to drink for nothing." He bore no ill-will toward the white chief, but he was going to his lodge for his weapons, and would kill the first Swannekin he met. Not many hours after the news came that he had kept his vow; an unoffending immigrant had been slain unawares, as he was roofing the house of the owner of the trading post at Hackinsack.

The whole countryside flew to arms; anxiety and fear prevailed. A deputation of Indian chiefs somewhat allayed alarm by visiting Captain De Vries, who was president of the advisory council of Twelve for the province, and repudiating the acts of their younger brother. They offered to make atonement in money, but could not deliver up the murderer, who had fled to the mountains, among the Haverstraws. And, besides, he was a chief's son, and therefore could not be molested, according to their code. Captain De Vries advised them to proceed to Fort Amsterdam and make their explanation in person to Director-General Kieft; to ensure their safe return he would accompany them. Upon hearing the appeal the General declared that justice in such a case could only be satisfied by the punishment of the murderer. He denounced in solemn words the enormity of the crime, and declined any atonement of money. Oritany, the great sachem of the Hackensacks, while regretting the crime, expressed the opinion that "the Swannekins ought not to sell fire-water to our young men to make them crazy. Your own people fight with knives and commit fooleries when drunk."

That winter, in February, an attack which the river Indians had long apprehended as a consequence of selling firearms indiscriminately to the Six Nations was made. Suddenly and ferociously a hundred Mohawks, every one armed with a musket, against which a bow and arrow was a poor defence, fell upon the villages on both sides of the river below the Highlands and pillaged them. Surprised and inadequately equipped, the people could make no defence; their only safety was in flight. Those on the east side of the river fled toward Manhattan Island, seeking refuge among the settlers and at the fort; while on the west side the fugitives first came Vriesendaal, and then overflowed to Hackensack and Pavonia. For two weeks, while the dreaded Mohawks remained in the vicinity, they lived on the bounty of the Dutch. At this juncture Kieft was urged by some brutal spirits in his community to take advantage of the opportunity to punish the river Indians for several offences, but

others, notably De Vries, advised against such action. Public opinion at Manhattan had long been divided on the question of the treatment to be accorded the Indians, and now upon the presentation of a formal petition by a few who assumed to speak for the whole community the General decided in favor of inflicting a terrible punishment upon the defenceless refugees, and issued the following orders:

"Whereas, the inhabitants in our neighborhood continue to reside in the country under great alarm, and cultivate their land in anxiety, through fear of the savages, who now and then have murdered some of them in a most villainous manner, without any previous provocation, and we cannot obtain any satisfaction for these massacres; we must therefore appeal to our arms, so that we may live here in security. In the full confidence that God will crown our resolutions with success; moreover, as the commonality solicits on the 22nd day of February, 1643, that we may execute the same; we therefore hereby authorize Maryn Andriasen, at his request, to attack a party of savages skulking behind Corlaer's Hook, or plantation, and act with them in every manner as they deem proper, and the time and opportunity shall permit.

"Sergeant Rodolf is commanded and authorized to take under his command a troop of soldiers, and lead them to Pavonia, and drive away and destroy the savages being behind Jan Evertsen's, but to spare, as much as possible, their wives and children, and to take the savages prisoners. . . . The exploit is to be executed at night, with the greatest caution and prudence. Our God may bless the expedition."

No pen can fully describe the horrors of that night between the 25th and 26th of February. Crossing over to Pavonia, the soldiers silently surrounded the camp of the refugee Tappans and Haverstraws, who were already mourning the death of fathers and sons at the hands of the Mohawks, and suffering privations attendant upon being driven from their homes in mid-winter. At midnight the massacre began. Captain De Vries, the proprietor of Vriesendael, in the country of the Tappans, was a distant eye-witness. He was at Director-General Kieft's that night. When seated at table that evening the commander had told his guest of a desire to make the savages "wipe their chops." De Vries had remonstrated long with him, especially pointing out what the result of "jangling with the Indians" on the Delaware and Staten Island had been. "You will go," said he, "to break the Indians' heads, but it is our nation that you are going to murder." Kieft answered that the Cap-

tain might be assured there would be no danger. As the night advanced, after the soldiers and armed civilians had left, he took a seat in the kitchen by the fire. "At midnight I heard loud shrieks," he wrote in his journal, "and went out to the parapet of the fort and looked toward Pavonia. I saw nothing but the flashing of the guns. I heard no more the cries of the Indians. They were butchered in their sleep." He re-entered the house, with his heart aching for his poor friends, the Tappans. Presently an Indian, with his squaw, who had lived near Vriesendale, came into the room. He had escaped from the slaughter in a skiff. "The Fort Orange Indians have fallen on us," said he, "and we have come to hide ourselves in the fort." "It is no time to hide in the fort—No Indians have done this deed. It is the work of the Swannekins—the Dutch," answered De Vries, as he led them to the gate.

Eighty human beings were murdered that night at Pavonia, and thirty at Corlaer's Hook, under the most horrible circumstances. Some of those who escaped instant death and dragged their mutilated bodies towards the fort, not realizing that it was the lair of their enemies, had had their hands struck off; some were found with legs missing; others "were supporting their entrails with their hands."

Unwilling to believe at first that the Christians had committed the shameful deed, the red men burned with hatred when they realized the truth. The hatchet was raised, war whoops rang through the land; the white invaders should be made to know the power of the race they had despised. Eleven tribes, including the Tappans and Haverstraws—than whom none were more furious—allied themselves for revenge. The incautious Kieft when giving orders for the massacres had not reckoned on the consequences to his own people. Scattered among the Indians for thirty miles north and east and twenty west and south, were now many small settlements and detached cabins. Among these the tomahawk, scalping knife and firebrand were soon committing deeds no less horrible than the atrocities which the Christians had perpetrated. From the Ramapo to the Connecticut the cries of agonized mortals and the flames of desecrated hearths ascended to heaven; and the directors at Fort Amsterdam realized that in signing the death warrants of innocent natives they had also signed the death warrants of their own countrymen.

Among the places burned was Captain De Vries' private plantation; his cattle, tobacco, haystacks and everything except his house was destroyed. His workmen and their families saved themselves by taking

refuge in the dwelling, which they successfully defended until an Indian, coming late on the scene, interposed to save the dwelling and related how Captain De Vries had once befriended him. The assailants ceased firing; then with signs of regret and good will departed. The mediator was the Indian who had come to De Vries at the Governor's on the night of the Pavonia massacre. Upon his first meeting with the Governor, De Vries asked him if he did not now see that he had made a mistake. Kieft made no answer. With the bodies of his countrymen strewing the forests, with the fort crowded with fugitives, and as many as could go hastening to return to Holland, the error that had been committed was only too apparent. The commander-in-chief was reproached on every hand; even his life was in danger.

When the carnage had continued about a week, three Indians with a white flag came to the fort and asked that commissioners be sent to a conference with their chiefs, on the seashore, some miles away. Two representatives were sent, one being Capt. De Vries. They arrived at the appointed place that evening, but the council did not meet until the next morning. Then sixteen chiefs placed themselves in a circle around the whites, and one, who had a bundle of small sticks in his hand, commenced a speech. "He related," writes De Vries "that when we first arrived on their shores we were sometimes in want of food; they gave us beans and corn, and let us eat oysters and fish, and now for recompense we murdered their people. Here he laid down one little stick—this was one point of accusation. The men who in your first trips you left here to barter your goods until your return, these men have been treated by us as we would have done by our eyeballs. He laid down another stick." . . . The result of the conference was the going of all the chiefs to see the Governor at the fort, where other warriors, among them a party of Tappans and Hackensack chiefs and leaders, joined the council. Peace was ostensibly made, presents were exchanged—but everything was not satisfactory to the Indians, and they left grumbling. One presently came back and gave warning, but hostilities were suspended until September, when nine Indians, believed to have been Tappans, killed four soldiers unawares at Pavonia, and burned all the houses there. They carried a Dutch lad captive to Tappan. War with all its horrors was resumed. The father of the Dutch boy came with the Governor to De Vries, to beg him to go to the Indians and free his

son. With two Indians the proprietor of Vriensendaël sailed in a privateer to Tappan, and returned in safety with the child.

Resolved to stay no longer in a land where he had experienced so many sorrows and losses, De Vries went to General Kieft and bade him farewell, saying that "vengeance for innocent blood which he had shed in his murderings would sooner or later come on his head." He sailed on a fisherman's vessel to Virginia, "in order to proceed from thence to Europe," and Rockland county knew him no more. He was evidently a just as well as enterprising man.

Fifteen hundred warriors were now on the warpath, and to oppose them the Dutch had no more than three hundred men, including about fifty soldiers. Many Christians had fled back to Holland. The barbarians swept the country, and by destroying all that had not been destroyed before, made it utterly desolate. In one way and another, but principally by capture, they had well equipped themselves with guns and ammunition. Unburdened by their families, who had been sent far into the interior, they were free to execute vengeance. Even the Mohawks now feared them and came not near. Fort Amsterdam would have fallen an easy prey had it been attacked, and the garrison, with little ammunition, expected every day to be overwhelmed. Not a plough could be put in the ground, and no one dared go far from the fort alone. Exactly when or under what circumstances Vriesendaël, the first white settlement in Rockland county, met its fate is unknown. It went down in the general crash. Let us hope that but few if any souls perished at its fall.

"What doth the Indian love? Revenge.

What doth he fight for? Revenge.

What doth he pray for? Revenge.

It is sweet as the flesh of a young bear;

For this he goes hungry, roaming the desert.

Living on berries, or chewing the rough bark

Of the oak, and drinking the slimy pool."

In his extremity the Director-General asked the commonality to select an advisory committee from their number, and eight men were appointed to aid Kieft with their counsel. One of their first acts was to send an appeal for help to Holland, but they did not neglect to charge the Director with bringing on hostilities with the Indians without sufficient cause, and to demand his removal. In May (1644) unexpected help arrived in the form of a Dutch man-of-war, which landed a force of 150 soldiers, together with fifty other armed men. The Dutch sought diligently to secure peace with the Indians, but the war continued with

all the incidents of such a struggle until August, 1645, during all of which period the river Indians were masters of their country, except at Fort Amsterdam. Fort Orange was outside of the field of carnage. On August 30, as the result of previous negotiations, the sachems of the surrounding tribes came to a council at Manhattan. In a pleasant glade outside the fort the sachems of the Haverstraws and Tappans, with delegates from Long Island, Oritany of the Hackensacks, Aepjen, chief of the Mahicans proper, who also represented the Sint Sings, Wappingnecks and other east side tribes of the river, besides some mediators from the Iroquois confederacy, had a long "talk" with the Governor and his advisors, and as the result Christians and barbarians bound themselves solemnly and firmly to keep the peace thereafter. No white man should go armed to an Indian village without permission; no armed Indian to approach a Christian's dwelling. Each party pledged to apply in case of difficulty to the proper authorities, so that justice could be administered. The sixth of September following was observed in the churches as a day of thanksgiving. The hatchet was buried and the European had come to stay.

CHAPTER VI.

APPORTIONING THE LANDS.

Second Attempt at Colonization—The English Seize the Province—The Christian Patented Lands of Haverstraw—Town of Orange—Apportioning the Lands—Beginnings of Government—List of Pioneers—Life in the Wilderness—Colonel Mac Gregorie.

WILLIAM KIEFT, as Director-General, or Governor, of the province, was in May, 1647, superseded by Peter Stuyvesant, who had for several years been in the service of the West India Company, as Director of its colony at Curacao, off the coast of South America. The new officer was distinguished for bravery as well as energy, and had lost a leg in fighting the battles of his country. For three months Kieft tarried at Fort Amsterdam, and when he sailed it was not for a safe voyage home to Holland, but to be shipwrecked and drowned on the coast of Wales. Immediately upon Stuyvesant's accession he

References: N. Y. Hist. Soc. Docs.—Ruttenber's Indian Tribes of Hudson's River—O'Callaghan's New Netherland—De Vries' Journal—Brodhead's New York.

determined upon a reform in the manner of government that would relieve him of some of the responsibility and perhaps enable him to avoid the mistakes into which his predecessor fell. He organized a council representative of and chosen by the commonality, and consisting of nine members. The council suggested various important measures for the upbuilding of the province to which the Governor gave his consent, and in carrying out which he gained the good-will of the Indians so lately in revolt, and restored harmony among all classes. But at best it was an autocratic government. The governors sent out were merely managers in a commercial corporation, who at least until now had given little consideration to the welfare of independent settlers, or to matters not connected with the traffic which their company carried on—"the hardy, adventurous, lawless, fascinating fur trade." The result of that policy had been physical and financial disaster, and now a new start must be made along a different line. The wishes of the "people" should henceforth be more consulted, and some special advantages should be held out to home builders.

The farmer upon his arrival with his family from over the sea was now granted by the Company for the term of six years a "bouwerie," or farm, which was partly cleared and a good part of it fit for the plough. The Company then furnished the farmer with a house, barn, farming implements and tools, together with four horses, four cows, sheep and pigs, the "usufruct and enjoyment of which" the husbandman had during the six years, when he was expected to return the number of cattle he had received. The increase remained with him, but he was required to pay a yearly rental of one hundred guilders and eighty pounds of butter. It is stated in official papers that the people who took advantage of this offer all prospered during the term of their residence on the Company's lands. But the "bouweries" remained the property of the great corporation, and at the expiration of the term of his lease the husbandman was expected to make new arrangements.

In this connection it is interesting to read that certain freedom and exemptions were allowed to "all those who shall be willing to repair to New Netherland," but the nature of the conditions was such that only a "privileged few" comparatively speaking, could avail themselves of the offer. An individual might purchase of the Indian owners a tract of land on which to plant a colony, or establish a manor, provided that he should agree to begin the cultivation of the land within one year of the

date of purchase, and, further, that each proprietor should ship to his plantation in the course of four years at least one hundred souls, all above the age of fifteen. The Indians could be satisfied for their lands by a few trifles, but the deed had to be signed by both parties to the transaction in the presence of some member of the Company. He who established such a colony was to be considered a patroon or chief, in whom were centered all the rights pertaining to the position. He could administer justice, appoint officers and magistrates, arrange for the service of a clergyman and schoolmaster, and make use of the title of his colony according to his pleasure and quality, all, however, with the knowledge and consent of the Assembly of Fifteen. A patent to authorize the disposal of this feudal estate by will was to be granted to every patroon who desired it. Avowedly the owner was a sort of feudal lord, owing allegiance to the West India Company and to the States General, but independent of control within the limits of his own territory. His estate could be four leagues in length on the river, and extend inland as far as the patroon desired. Or, if he desired to have his manor on both sides of the river, he might claim two leagues along each shore. Moreover, the Company promised not to take from the service of a patroon any colonist, whether man or woman, son or daughter, man-servant or maid-servant, or permit any other proprietor to do so, or permit any colonist, tenant or servant to leave his patroon except by previously written consent of the latter, during the term of contract. Should any colonist run away to another patroon, or take his freedom without permission, the Company promised to have him, so far as lay in its power, returned to his patroon, to be proceeded against by the master according to the circumstances of the case.

The system was a form of feudalism, under which the colonists, while not serfs, were far from being free and independent citizens. The first colony in Rockland county, "Vriesendaël," was organized under this law. Director Michael Paauw in the same way had previously established "Pavonia." Killeen Van Rensselaer, with some of his brother Directors, founded the colony called "Rensslaerwyck." (The privileges of a patroon were at first restricted to the members of the Company.) The estates and fortunes of many families of the present time had their beginning under the rule of the Dutch West India Company.

The second attempt to found a colony in the territory now included in Rockland county was begun in the year 1651, by Cornelius Wreck-



VIEW OF THE HUDSON FROM WEST POINT.



hoven, who is described in the records as "Councillor of the Municipality and ex-Schepen of the City of Utrecht," who appeared at the office of the West India Company at Amsterdam and declared himself Patroon of two colonies which he intended to establish in New Netherland, "one beginning at the Navesinck and stretching northward to the colony of the lord of Nederhorst, the other beginning at Tappan and stretching northward through the Highlands, both subject to the conditions and conforming to the rules lately made by the Company," quoting from the official entry made at the chamber of Amsterdam, "and delivered to their High: Might: for approval, or such other privileges and exemptions as may be granted hereafter by the aforesaid Company, with the knowledge of their High: Might: The aforesaid Hon. Van Werckhoven promised to act in everything properly, and for the service of the Company, while His Honor receives on the part of the Company a promise of every help, favor and assistance possible, in witness whereof this record has been made on the day and in the year as above:

"The Directors of the Incorporated West India Company, to all who shall see this or hear it read, Greeting! Know ye, that they have consented and authorized, as they herewith consent and authorize, His Honor, Cornelis Van Werckhoven, . . . that he may as Patroon establish a colony in New Netherland, beginning at Tappan, near the colony of Nederhorst, and stretching northward through the Highlands, all subject to the conditions and conforming to the rules lately made by the Company, and submitted to their High: Might: the Lord States General for approval as may be granted hereafter by the aforesaid Company with the knowledge of their High: Might: They order, charge and request every one whom this may in any way concern not to hinder his said Honor, Cornelis Werckhoven, herein, but to help, favor and assist him when necessary, whereas this has been decided to be for the benefit of the Company. This done at a meeting at Amsterdam, the 7th of November, 1651." (The same for a colony beginning at the Navesinck and stretching northward to the colony of the lord of Nederhorst.)

Upon reviewing the foregoing document, the Company's Directors at Amsterdam perceived that it was indefinitely and loosely drawn. Even in a country where and at a time when land was so easily obtained by gentlemen of influence, it was desirable that boundaries should be more precisely stated. Again, the distance "from Tappan into the High-

lands" was more than four leagues; and finally, Baron Van der Capellen had already obtained title to a part of the Navesinck country covered by Van Werckhoven's claim. The result was that the councillor did not found a colony at Tappan, but accepted instead of the tracts asked for an estate on Long Island, fronting on New York Bay at or near the Narrows.

Rockland county was not destined to have a lord's "manor," or to receive a colony of any kind under the Dutch dispensation. New England under the English Massachusetts Company was flourishing, but New Netherland, under the Dutch West India Company, after forty years of possession, was but very slightly advanced. Rockland county merely shared the general backwardness of the province. The next and last decade of feudalism in the Hudson valley was attended by better progress, which was due in part to modifications in the government, as well as to the subsidence of Indian troubles. Meanwhile the English had been making aggressions; their field of influence had extended to Long Island and the western part of Connecticut; the right of Holland to possess even the Hudson river valley was denied. "Maryland," declared Lord Baltimore's Secretary, "extends to the limits of New England." "And New England, so they claim, doth extend to Maryland," answered the Dutch envoy; "where then remains New Netherland?" The question was determined in the year 1664, when a sort of buccaneering expedition sent from England by the Duke of York demanded and received the surrender of the country.

The English forces, which consisted of three ships of the line and one armed transport carrying three full companies, commanded by Colonels Nicolls, Carr and Cartwright, sailed from Portsmouth for Gardiner's Bay on the 15th of May. Before proceeding on to the Hudson, Colonel Nicolls demanded military aid from the English authorities in New England, and designated the west end of Long Island as the place of rendezvous. Although Holland received timely warning of the expedition, no measures were taken for the protection of the colony. The West India Company at Amsterdam saw the danger of the situation, but was powerless to send out an opposing force, while the Dutch people at large in Holland seemed to take but little interest in the matter. Ten weeks had been consumed in the voyage across the ocean, but the squadron did not appear at the mouth of the Hudson until about the middle

of August. The troops were landed at New Utrecht Bay, a spot since historical as the place of Lord Howe's landing in 1776. Here Nicolls, the commander of the land force, waited until joined by militia from Massachusetts, Connecticut and Long Island. The strength of the English being overwhelming, the futility of resistance was apparent to all in New Amsterdam, though Stuyvesant would have made a fight with his little force had he not been dissuaded by the earnest appeals of the citizens.

The terms of capitulation, which were ratified on the 29th of August, confirmed the inhabitants in the possession of their property, the exercise of religion and their freedom as citizens. The first act of Colonel Nicolls on taking possession was to give orders that the city of New Amsterdam be henceforth called New York and the fort Fort James. At this time the population of the city did not exceed fifteen hundred souls, and the province ten thousand, while the number of the English in New England exceeded sixty thousand. Colonel Cartwright took a force up the river and received the surrender of Fort Orange, the name of which was changed then to Albany, in honor of a title of the Duke of York, brother of Charles the Second and heir apparent to the throne. While the colony had been changed at one stroke from a Dutch to an English possession, it must not be presumed that institutions that had been established for half a century as quickly disappeared to make way for new ones. The Dutch impress had been too deep for that. The people of that nationality remained, and in the course of years many came from the old country to join them, notwithstanding the change of flag. For a generation or more they continued to be the leaders in local affairs. It has often been said that the colony became flourishing only after the English took possession, which is true; but the principal element in the colony continued to be the Dutch. Under opportunities that had been denied them by the old flag, the sturdy, God-fearing and industrious people worked out successful careers in this region, and left an honored name. Dutch was still the prevailing language in many places a century or more later. At the old church at Tappan the services on alternate Sundays were conducted in the Dutch language until 1830. The patent of the Duke of York, for whom Governor Nicolls acted as personal representative, authorized him to make and execute all laws necessary for carrying on the government; but while possessing arbitrary power, the new governor chose to show moderation

and at the same time discretion. His principal task was to bring the Dutch people under the English laws, as promulgated by the Duke of York, but the code was only gradually applied in practice. The changes immediately made were more in terms than in substance, except that the Dutch inhabitants were required to take an oath of allegiance to the government or suffer confiscation of their property. The time had now come for the opening up of the territory embraced in this county. When English rule began the Indians still controlled the country along the west side of the Hudson; the white man had not yet returned to the land from which they had once been driven.

Some time prior to July 31, 1666, a Dutch merchant in New York city named Balthazer De Harte purchased from the Haverstraw Indians practically the entire river front of their country. He bargained with and satisfied them for all the land lying between "the hills called Verdrietig Hook" on the south and the Highlands on the north, "on the east side of the mountains, so that the same is bounded by Hudson's river and round about by high mountains." This was but one of several tracts of land which De Harte purchased, not for a homestead or colony, but simply to add to his possessions, and because tracts could be obtained for a trifle that perhaps in the future could be disposed of at a profit. Under the English law he was not required to establish a colony thereon, or to cultivate the soil, but the owner of such an estate had no special privileges or exemptions, as under the Dutch regime; he was not a patroon or lord of a manor. It was a system, however, which permitted abuses. There being no limit to the amount of land that could be "purchased" from the Indians for little or nothing, an era of wholesale "land grabbing" was a consequence at a later period. De Harte rested content with his Indian deed and its indefinite description until 1671, when, desiring to have a better title, he applied to Governor Carteret and the Council of New Jersey for a patent. The general supposition then was that Haverstraw was in the province of New Jersey, and outside of New York. Before New Netherland had been conquered by the British, and while the fleet that was to demand and receive the capitulation of the country was yet upon the sea, on its way to New Amsterdam, the Duke of York had been prevailed upon to bestow upon two of his favorites, Sir George Carteret, then Governor of the Channel Island of Jersey, and Lord Berkeley, who was then treasurer of the Duke's household,

the great tract of land "hereafter to be called by the name of New Cæsarea, or New Jersey." The northern boundary of the tract was described as being from the "northernmost branch of the said bay or river of Delaware, which is forty-one degrees and forty minutes of latitude. . . . in a straight line to Hudson's river in forty-one degrees of latitude." The general understanding was at first that the boundary line was in the vicinity of the Highlands, at or near Stony Point.

De Harte's original purchase covered land north as well as south of the Minisceongo, but having sold the portion north of the creek to Nicholas Depuy and Peter Marius, his application to the New Jersey authorities was for a patent on the remainder, which request was granted April 10, 1671. The sale of the other portion was subsequently ratified and confirmed for the successors of Depuy and Marius by the authorities of New York. The patent to De Harte was for a tract estimated to contain 400 acres. When the owner made his will, less than a year later (Jan. 4, 1672), he bequeathed to his brother Jacobus "all the land of Haverstroo purchased of the Indians by the testator, and the patent granted by Gov. Philip Carteret." When the division line between New York and New Jersey was finally settled, Jacobus De Harte obtained a patent for his Haverstraw property, his brother having died. This document was obtained December 19, 1685. It will be noted that while Balthazer De Harte bought from the Indians the land which was the basis of nearly all the subsequent grants in the district, only a portion of the tract passed into the possession of and was confirmed by patent to his brother Jacobus. The whole became known as the "Christian Patented Lands of Haverstraw."

On April 16, 1671 (only six days after the granting of the first De Harte patent), Claes Jansen, who had been living in New Jersey, received a patent for a tract of land lying on the river, "at the north end of Tappan, at a brook, thence northeasterly along the river forty chains," etc., the whole containing 240 acres. It is not related that Jansen satisfied the Indians for this farm, but presumably he did, though thirty years before it had with other lands thereabouts been purchased by Captain De Vries, and, after being occupied a short time, abandoned. Dowe Harmanse subsequently bought a farm eighty chains long and fifty chains wide, adjoining Jansen's on the north side, also on the river front.

In 1684-5 an association headed by Governor Dongan made large purchases of land in Orange and Ulster counties, part of it now being in

the territory of Rockland. The combined tract embraced all the river front from the patented lands of Haverstraw north to Danskammer point, and extended twenty miles into the interior, or to the Shawangunk mountains. The southerly boundary extended in a northwest direction from the Hudson into the interior, and for that reason it is famous in local land titles as the Northwest Line. But not only had the Indians previously sold to Van Courtlandt a portion of the lands which by this sale they conveyed to Dongan's association, but they had also sold to Patrick MacGregorie, David Toshuck, William Sutherland, William Chambers and twenty-five others, principally Scotch Presbyterians, a section of four thousand acres, lying on both sides of Murderer's creek, and these newcomers, being bona fide settlers, had actually taken possession and erected cabins before the sale to Dongan was made. MacGregorie's own cabin was on Plum Point. Van Courtlandt was able to prove his title to that portion of his manor then lying opposite Anthony's Nose, but the settlers at Murderer's creek fared poorly at the hands of the land jobbers. After they had been in possession for about ten years, one Captain John Evans, commander of H. M. S. Richmond, stationed in American waters, appeared and claimed all the territory that Dongan had bought from the Indians, including the tract covered by this settlement. In the interim MacGregorie had been killed while in the service of his king, his brother-in-law, David Toshuck, had died at the settlement, and Dongan had been retired from the governorship of the province. To the other settlers Evans exhibited a grant for the domain originally made to Dongan and by him transferred to the present owner, and the transfer confirmed by the then Governor, Benjamin Fletcher, in consideration of five hundred pounds. Evans presumed to call the vast estate the "Manor of Fletcherdon." Naturally, he had the Governor's support in his claims, and the settlers had no better alternative than to take leases, which they did, but not without protest.

George Lockhart was allotted 2,000 acres, under a patent dated Feb. 20, 1685. The tract had a frontage on the river, and was on the south side of "Tappan's Sloat."

The next large grant of land in this region was for a settlement adjoining the Christian Patented Lands of Haverstraw, for a company of immigrants from Holland, among whom were descendants or relatives of the former patroon, Captain David De Vries. Being in numbers suf-

ficient to demand it, they were granted a township patent, under the name of the Town of Orange, with all the powers "practiced or belonging into any town within this government." The patent was granted March 20, 1686, the Indians having been previously satisfied for the land. The proprietors mentioned in the document were Cornelis Claessen Kuyper, Daniel de Klercke, Peter Harnich, Gerritt Steuments, John de Vries, Sr., John de Vries, Jr., Claes Mannde, John Stratemaker, Staaes De Groat, Arean Lammeates, Lamont Ariamms, Huybert Gorryts, Johannes Gerrits, Eide Van Vorst and Cornelius Lammerts. The boundaries of the town were defined as "beginning at the mouth of Tappan creek, where it falls into the meadow, and running thence along the north side of said creek to a creeple bush, and falls into Hackinsack river, northerly to a place called the green bush, and thence along said green bush easterly to the lands of Claes Janse and Dowe Harmanse, and from thence southerly along said land upon the top of the hills to the aforementioned mouth of Tappan creek where it falls into the meadow aforesaid." It will be observed that this settlement began with a township organization, and with a form of local civil government, the first in the county. To what extent, if at all, the patented lands of Haverstraw were occupied when the town of Orange came into existence is a matter of conjecture, but the latter was by far the more considerable settlement. The land was apportioned fairly among the families, the custom of the country being to make an allowance for each member of the family. There was no hamlet or village at first, as each family resided apart, on its own farm, and whenever a meeting of the inhabitants was desirable or necessary it was held at one of the homes. The weekly prayer-meeting was the earliest form of worship, and after a time there was occasional preaching. In those early days the religious society was the very center of life for the community; from it radiated the cords that bound men's hearts together; thither they came homesick and despondent and found strength, love and joy; it was their comfort in the wilderness, their fortress and salvation; without the support which it afforded, how could the pioneer settlers have survived?

Peace and prosperity blessed the town, and the growth of the community in 1694 (Oct. 24) warranted the organization of a church, which was of the Reformed Protestant Dutch faith, and the first preacher was the Rev. Guillian Bertholf, who divided his time and services among

several communities. He was the pioneer minister in New Jersey, and all the Dutch people on the west side of the river south of Murderer's creek, as well as those of Tarrytown and Staten Island, were in his spiritual charge. Hackensack, Bergen, Raritan and Acquakanonek also received the ministrations of this good and devoted man. Fifty-five acres were set off for a glebe, the rentals from which would go toward the support of a minister and schoolmaster. Naturally, a hamlet grew up on the glebe, and here the first church edifice was erected in 1716, and the first school established; the tavern, cemetery, post office, court house and jail followed in due time. The name of Tappan was bestowed upon the hamlet, and the township as a whole became known as "Orangetown."

Since the first purchase of land in this region by De Harte, the province of New York had been recaptured by the Dutch (1673), and returned again to the British by the treaty of Westminster (1674). At the time of the founding of Orangetown the population of the whole province was about eighteen thousand, and Thomas Dongan was His Majesty's Captain-General and Governor-in-Chief. The population reached as far north as Albany, and Schenectady was the remotest settlement on the Mohawk. Long Island and lower Westchester and Manhattan were the districts most thickly inhabited. Dongan brought over with him from London instructions to summon a general assembly, to consist of not more than eighteen persons, to be chosen by all the freeholders. This assembly was to "have full liberty to consult and debate for all laws," but its statutes were subject to veto by the Duke of York. The Governor was also authorized to establish courts on the British plan. The Assembly met in Fort James, Oct. 17, 1683. In the course of the session of three weeks fourteen acts were passed. The most important was the "Charter of Liberties," in which declaration was made that under the king and lord proprietor "the supreme legislative authority shall forever be and reside in a governor, council and the people met in general assembly." This was the first time "the people" were recognized "in any constitution in America," according to the King. The charter also provided for freedom in religion, for liberty of choice in all elections, and it embodied the principle of no taxation without representation in these words: "No aid, tax, custom, loan, benevolence or imposition whatsoever shall be levied within this province upon any pretense but by the consent of the governor, council and representatives of the people in general assembly."

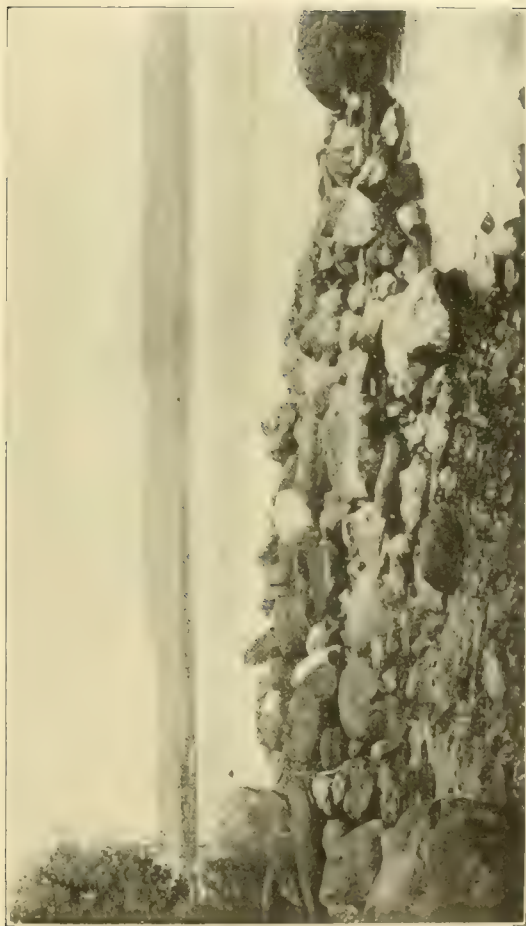
Twelve counties were erected, namely: New York, Westchester, Ulster, Dutchess, Orange, Albany, Richmond, Kings, Queens, Suffolk, all in the present State, and Dukes and Cornwall, which are outside. All but Orange and Ulster were thereafter to be entitled to representation in the Assembly. Orange county was placed under the care of New York county, and Dutchess under the care of Albany. Four kinds of courts were recognized: town courts, for the trial of small causes; county courts, a general court of oyer and terminer, and a court of chancery to be supreme court of the province, composed of the governor and council, with power in the governor to appoint a chancellor to act in his stead as the presiding officer in this court.

The next land taken up in Rockland (Orange) county was the Quaspeck section, the Indian name for Hook Mountain and the neighboring country, including Rockland Lake. There was a strife for this property, which consisted of 5,000 acres, and two associations claimed it and showed deeds. Jarvis Marshall & Company (including William Welch) secured the grant in 1694. A vast tract of country immediately west of the town of Orange and the Haverstraw patents was conveyed by deed and patent in 1696 to Daniel Honan and Michael Hawdon. This was called the Kakiat patent, and was the largest conveyance thus far made in the county of Rockland. There was a law to the effect that not more than two thousand acres should be granted to any one person, but the provision was evaded by forming associations and otherwise. In 1708 the great Wawayanda patent was issued for 160,000 acres of the interior of Orange county, extending from the Ulster county line to New Jersey. A large tract called the Cheesecook lands, lying between the Kakiat and Evans patents and west of the Christian Patented Lands of Haverstraw, was granted, for an annual rental of twenty shillings, to an association, some or all of the members of which were interested in the Wawayanda patent also. The boundary lines of the Evans, Wawayanda and Cheesecook patents were for years in dispute, and it was a cause of irritation among the settlers that such large grants should be made in defiance of the intent of the law. Complaint was made to the Government at London, and in 1699 the Assembly took up the matter, annulled the Evans patent altogether, and curtailed and readjusted some other large grants. The Evans tract was afterward given out in small parcels; but even when the greatest care was exercised the government was sometimes imposed upon. Of the original

Dongan-Evans tract Richard Bradley and members of his family secured several thousand acres now contained within the bounds of Stony Point township.

The beginning of the eighteenth century found practically all the land in the territory of the present Rockland county appropriated, and the system of government was being gradually perfected. In 1691 the judiciary had been modified so as to permit of a justice of the peace in every town and a court of common pleas for every county. But this did not apply to Orange (Rockland) county, which for the first twenty years after its erection was a county only in name. Orange being under the care of New York county, the same sheriff and other county officers acted for both. This was on account of the smallness of the population. Governor Leisler, to serve his own ends, during the course of his remarkable rebellion, appointed a member of his council, William Lawrence, to represent Orange county in the Assembly of 1691, but the county had no real right to representation. Also in 1700 we find Orange county with a representative in the Assembly in the person of Abram Gouverneur. Though he subsequently was elected Speaker of the House, it is an open question if he was an honored representative, inasmuch as he had been convicted of murder—and pardoned. The people were permitted to choose an Assemblyman for themselves for the first time in 1702, and their choice fell upon Peter Hearing—or Hearingh, according to the spelling of the time. It is learned from a letter of Lord Cornbury written from his country seat at Haverstraw, to the Lords of Trade at London, that Theunis Talman, Esq., was High Sheriff of the County of Orange at this time, and that, like several other sheriffs, he signed his name with a mark. The ignorance of these officers was such that Lord Cornbury wrote that he would not be able to give an account of the number of inhabitants in the province "till I have a new set of Sheriffs, which shall be in the middle of next month, at which time I will take care to appoint such persons as I have already put into the commissions of the peace—'men' (according to the 12th paragraph of my instructions) 'of good life and well affected to His Majesty's government, and of good estates and abilities, and not necessitous people or much in debt;' then I shall be able to give such accounts as are required."

The enumeration made under Lord Cornbury's direction in June, 1702, purporting to include all the inhabitants of Orange county, accounts for 268 persons. Of these 54 were males, sixteen years or over;



ANDRE'S LANDING PLACE, FROM THE SOUTH. HAVERSTRAW IN THE DISTANCE.

40 women, of whom thirty-seven were wives and three widows; 57 boys under sixteen years; 84 girls or maids; 33 negroes, men, women and children, all slaves. Only five men were above sixty years; one of these was Justice of the Peace William Merritt; another Direk Storm, the Clerk. One of the citizens had an Indian woman for a wife. The names of the men in this census roll are as follows:

William Merritt,	Daniel De Klerek,
Abram Hearingh,	Thomis Roelffzen Van Howtten,
Roloff Van Howtten,	Hendrick Geritssen,
John Hendrickssen,	Herman Hendrickssen,
Geridt Hendrickssen,	Lambert Arianssen,
Geridt Lambertzen,	Thonis Taelman,
Lowe Reynerssen,	Casper Janssen,
Johnn Classen,	Reyn Janzen,
Johnnus Gerissen,	Jacob Cool,
Coenrat Hanssen,	Reijnier Mijnerssen,
Direk Straat,	Cornelius Hearingh,
Cosyn Hearingh,	Jacob Flierboom,
Samuel Conklijn,	Abram Blauvelt,
John Waard,	Isaac Gerrissen,
Pieter Hearingh,	Jeremiah Ceniff,
John D'puy,	John D'fries,
Gerritt Huijbrechtz,	John Meijer,
Poulus Tjurekssen,	John Hey,
Meichert Casperssen,	Jurian Meigerissen,
John Perre,	Jemes Weller,
Isaac Brett,	Will: Juell,
Will: Juell, Jr.,	Willem Crom,
Arian Crom,	Gysbert Crom,
Floris Crom,	Albert Mimelay,
Cornelius Coeper,	Edward Mek,
Frans Wey,	Direk Storm,
Cleas Van Howtton,	Jacob De Klerek.

The Justices of the Peace at the time when the census was taken were: William Merritt, Daniel De Klerek, Theunis R. Van Howton and Cornelius Clasen. One of the four being unable to write his name, made his mark instead. Justice Merritt owned eight slaves, but he is not credited with any children. Justice Van Howton possessed two

slaves, and was blessed with six unmarried daughters and three unmarried sons. Peter Hearingh had five "gerells," one boy, and one man-slave, in his household. Thonis Taelman kept two men-slaves. Albert Mimelay had one male and two female slaves. In brief, slaves were owned in seventeen families. In regard to the total number of inhabitants of the county, there are reasons for doubting that the number was correctly given. For instance, the names of none of the Scotch and Irish families composing the Murderer's creek colony appears in the census report. This settlement lay partly in Orange and partly in Ulster county, and had existed without interruption since 1684, when Col. MacGregorie, his brother-in-law "and twenty-five others . . . settled themselves, their families and sundry of their servants, on lands . . . and peaceably and quietly possessed and enjoyed themselves during the terms of their natural lives," as a paper signed by Mrs. Mac Gregorie bears witness. Moreover, the lady expressly states that her residence was "in the county of Orange." Here is clear proof that the alleged census did not account for all the inhabitants of the county. It is even doubtful if every person south of the Highlands was included. In 1693 it was officially reported that Orange county contained "no more than twenty families, free-holders, all living in Orangetown." This we know was an error. From the use of the word "freeholders," however, there is a possible inference that only proprietors were considered in the enumeration.

The pioneers of Orangetown and Haverstraw had by this time become well settled in their ways of life. The children they had brought with them into the wilderness were well on to manhood and womanhood; some had founded homes of their own. The schooling the boys and girls received was sturdy, though limited. It was an era when book-learning was not so needful for the former as physical strength for labor, wit for trade, and skill in woodcraft and farming; and for the girls expertness in household duties. Dutch customs prevailed; the Dutch element still led in business and government. According to the standard of the age, the people lived in comfort; the virgin soil yielded abundant crops; game and fish were plentiful in forest and stream; the necessities of life were easily obtainable. The Indians for the most part had retired into the interior, and now gave the colonists little or no trouble. There were marryings and givings in marriage; there were christenings and betrothals; days of labor in the field, evenings of con-

versation, meditation and prayer about the fire-place; besides the Sabbath walks to and from religious meetings, social gatherings and wayside chats, household hopes and sorrows; the incidents of daily life can easily be imagined.

Already the county had produced one man of note—a prototype of George Clinton. Patrick MacGregorie had not long resided on Plum Point, in the Murderer's creek settlement, when the Governor called him to be the Muster-General of the Militia of the province. Before coming across the sea he had fought for his king in France. In June, 1686, when much irritation existed between the French in Canada and the authorities of New York, MacGregorie was commissioned to lead a trading party to the Ottawa country; overtake a party that had gone out the previous year, and bring both expeditions back to Albany. He was ordered not to disturb or meddle with the French. Below Fort St. Joseph, at "the Detroit of Lake Erie," MacGregorie and his party of twenty-nine Christians, six Indians and eight prisoners were seized as trespassers by a superior force of French troops, taken to Fort Niagara and sent thence to Montreal, not to be released until the Fall of the following year, when there was an exchange of prisoners. In 1688 he executed an important mission to Canada for Governor Andros of Massachusetts. Though not a resident of Massachusetts, he was selected for this duty because of his special fitness. In 1689, with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, he was on duty in Maine and subsequently at Boston during the "secession" agitation, with Captain George Lockhart and Major Brookholls, all New York officers. In March, 1691, Colonel MacGregorie was ordered to proceed with his regiment to New York city, "to assist in maintaining the King's government" against Gov. Leisler, who was in rebellion. On the 17th of the month Leisler with his own hand fired one of the guns of the fort at the King's troops, as they stood on parade. This was followed by a furious cannonade and volleys of musketry. The fire from the fort was answered from without, and in firing one of the cannon six persons were killed. One was Col. MacGregorie. His widow continued to reside on Plum Point, which with a considerable estate was confirmed to her by the government.

References: Holland Documents. Colonial Documents. Rittenber's Orange County. Schuyler's Colonial New York. "The English in New York," by J. A. Stevens. B. Tuckerman's "Peter Stuyvesant." Roberts' New York. Lewis Beach's Cornwall. Brodhead's New York. Cole's Rockland County.

CHAPTER VII.

COLONIAL GOVERNMENT.

Courts and Court-Houses—Precincts Established—Names of Officers and Representatives—First Roads—Colonial Prices—Religious Influences—Family Customs—General and Local Laws—Public Improvements—French and Indian War—Militia System.

WITH the year 1703 a new era of government began for the county. Although erected in 1683, not until 1703 was Orange permitted to exercise all the rights and privileges granted to other counties. The first meeting of the Court of Sessions and Pleas was held at Tappan (Orangetown) on April 28, 1703, Judge William Merritt and Judge John Merritt sitting. These judges had been appointed by Governor Cornbury. The first recorded meeting of the Board of Supervisors was held April 27, of the same year;—present, William Merritt, John Merritt, Cornelius Cooper, Theunis Van Howton, Thomas Burroughs, Michael Hawdon, justices; John Perry, Sheriff; William Huddleston, clerk; Conradt Hanssen, constable. In June (1703) a general law was enacted that there should be "elected and chosen once every year, in each town, by the freeholders and inhabitants thereof, one of their freeholders and inhabitants to compute, ascertain, examine, oversee and allow the contingent, public and necessary charge of each county, and that each and every inhabitant, being a freeholder in any manor, liberty, jurisdiction, precinct and out-plantation, shall have liberty to join his or their vote with the next adjacent town in the county, where such inhabitants shall dwell, for the choice of a supervisor." The same enactment also provided that there should be annually chosen "in each town, ward, manor and precinct, by the freeholders and inhabitants thereof, two assessors and one collector." The elections were called for the first Tuesday in April, "or on such other days as were appointed by charters and patents." The annual meeting of the Board of Supervisors was appointed for the first Tuesday in October. A county treasurer was to be chosen by the Supervisors.

Soon after the organization of the town of Orange the inhabitants of the adjoining patents, including Haverstraw, were attached to it, and this connection was not broken until 1719, when Haverstraw was made a separate precinct, with boundaries described as "from the north-

ernmost bounds of Tappan to the northermost bounds of Haverstraw." The Town of Orange continued to be the only organized township in the county until 1714, when Goshen was founded as a township; then the adjoining patents were legally attached to it, and the whole made and constituted the Precinct of Goshen. Tappan was the county-seat, and the county and general courts assembled there exclusively until 1727. The first county building was erected in 1703, being a court house and jail combined. When it became necessary to elect a member of Assembly the polls were opened at Tappan only, and qualified electors in order to vote were required to go thither from all parts of the county. The Sheriff presided over the ballot box and declared the result. Only freeholders could vote for an Assemblyman, and it was not required that they should be actual residents. A freeholder could vote in any and every county where he had property—"lands or tenements improved to the value of forty pounds"—free from all incumbrances. The polls were kept open several days, to enable all who desired to appear and vote. The non-resident property-owners could also vote with the inhabitants for town officers.

Beginning in 1727, courts were held alternately at Goshen and Tappan as a matter of convenience, but the polls for the election of the Member of Assembly continued to be at Tappan only until 1749, when they were opened at Goshen also, and for not less than four, nor for more than six days, at each place. The court house in Orangetown was rebuilt, at an expense of £300, in 1737, when the population of the county had increased to about three thousand, and at the same time a court-house and jail for the convenience of the inhabitants north of the Highland was erected at Goshen. The county records remained in Orangetown, and there the principal official business of the county was transacted. The precinct of Goshen included all the territory of the county not attached to Orangetown and Haverstraw; in other words, the territory north and west of the mountains, from the Hudson river to the Delaware. But the precincts of Goshen and Orangetown should not be confounded with the towns themselves. The Cornwall, Warwick and Greycourt neighborhoods, for example, while in the precinct of Goshen, yet formed no part of Goshen town. The jurisdiction of the precincts of Orangetown and Haverstraw corresponded very nearly to the territory of the present Rockland county.

In the Colonial Assembly the county was represented by one member until 1726; thereafter by two. Among the early Assemblymen were Peter Haring, Floris Crom, Cornelius Haring, Henrich TenEyck, Cornelius Cooper, Lancaster Symes, Vincent Matthews, Abram Haring, Theodorus Snedeker, Gabriel Ludlow, Thomas Gale, Henry Wisner, Selah Strong, John DeNovelles, John Coe. Among the county judges following the Merritts, were John Corbett (1710), Peter Haring and Cornelius Haring (1717), Vincent Matthews of Goshen, James Jackson of Goshen, Abram Haring and John Haring. The Haring family was exceptionally prominent in public life in colonial times. Among the County Clerks who followed Storm and Huddleston were Gerardus Clowes (1721), Thomas Pullen (1723), Vincent Matthews of Cornwall (1726), Gabriel Ludlow (1735), Vincent Matthews (1736), David Matthews (1763). Among the Sheriffs were Floris W. Crom (1690), Stanley Handcock of New York (1694), John Peterson (1699), Theunis Van Howton (1702), John Perry (1703), Jeremiah Caniff (1706), Cornelius Cooper (1708), Cornelius Haring (1709), Timothy Halstead (1718), William Pullen (1730), Michael Dunning of Goshen (1737), Thadeus Snedeker (1739), Joshua Sackett of Cornwall (1747), John Lawrence of Cornwall (1756), Daniel Everett of Goshen (1758), Daniel Denton of Goshen (1761), Isaac Woodhull of Cornwall (1764), Jesse Woodhull of Cornwall (1772). Among the early Supervisors of Orangetown were Renear Kisaie (1722), Cornelius Haring (1723-8), Cornelius Smith (1729-31), Barent Naugell (1732-3), Gabriel Ludlow (1734-8), Henry Ludlow (1740-6), John Ferdon (1747), Adolph Lent (1748-57), David Blauvelt (1758-9), Daniel Haring (1760-3).

When the mind runs back to the first half of the eighteenth century in Rockland (Orange) county the people are found in the enjoyment of an existence which in spite of certain vicissitudes and even some deprivations must have approached very nearly the acme of earthly happiness for the average man. When all the circumstances by which their lives, their desires and their affairs were limited and shaped are considered, and when a proper estimate is made of the large measure of elements essential to contentment that was accorded to them, it will be perceived that after the rough edges of a new country had been smoothed away, when the paths and lanes to neighbors' homes, to the Glebe and to the riverside had become a bit worn, when the barns bulged with the harvests, and cattle grazed on a hundred hills, when fine white curtains hung

in the windows, and there was plenty to eat and to wear, colonial life was on the whole very satisfactory. What is called in modern times "the struggle for existence" was then almost unknown; the cruelties of competition had all been left behind in the old world. Not only were the necessities of life easily obtained, but wealth came to every home by natural increase. "Built before the Revolution" is the legend on a number of fine mansions that have survived to testify of the prosperity of the period. Even the illiteracy of the fathers, which was more apparent than real, was but another sign of the easy-going life. Men must be judged by the age in which they live. The colonial folk of the first and second generations not only had every material comfort, but also peace of mind; they had an independence of which no man could deprive them; they had an assured future for themselves and a good heritage for their children. Order, dignity, refinement and Christian fellowship ornamented their daily life. Their estates embraced the most beautiful country conceivable, with geographic and climatic situation unsurpassed, and their descendants have been content to live in the same place these many generations since.

The wealth which nature bestowed comprised horses, cattle, sheep, fowl, lumber, grain, hay, wool, furs, hides, pork, bacon, lard, beef. Some of the products could be exchanged for sugar, molasses, tea, coffee, and general supplies at the store, and some could be converted into money on shipment to New York. At Tappan Slote was the boat landing, but if one preferred riding, there was the King's highway,—and Paulus Hook was only thirty miles away. This highway had developed in the natural course of events from an Indian trail to a settlers' path, and at length to a passable road for horsemen. It connected the various settlements along the west side of the river. It may be assumed that the route of the old highway was virtually "engineered" by the red men, perhaps centuries before the Europeans came. From Tappan it proceeds to Haverstraw, passes on to Stony Point, winds through Doodletown to Fort Montgomery and West Point, climbs over Cro'nest and Storm King—to Cornwall, Moodna, Plum Point, the "Parish by Quassaick" (Newburgh), and so on to Esopus, Catskill and Albany. As the back country grew up, the Ramapo Clove road, another natural highway, became more and more traveled. This was the way to Goshen. Three highway commissioners for each town were provided for by a general law enacted in 1691. The Commissioners in 1730 were: For

Tappan—Reynier Keyserryek and Roeloff Van Houten; for Haverstraw—Cornelius Kuyper and Jonathan Rose. Every male inhabitant, including freeholders not actually residing in the county, was required to work five days in each year on the roads or furnish a man.

Haverstraw and Nyack as well as Tappan had their early landing places for sloops, to which roads led. The river shore at Haverstraw was particularly beautiful in colonial times.

An idea of the economic conditions prevailing before the Revolution can be obtained from the price-lists for land, farm products, store goods and labor. Land values were of course very low. The Indians, as has been observed, released their real estate for very slight considerations. In 1755 Aure Smith sold his large farm, lying between South Nyack and Sparkill creek, and fronting on the river-shore, to Gerrett Onderdonk for £350, including buildings. In 1716 Cornelius Cooper sold 330 acres of good land for £34, 15s. In 1753 Peter Gesler sold 225 acres (at Valley Cottage) for 45s. an acre. The capital required by a pioneer when he had secured his land was small. A yoke of oxen was valued at \$70; a cow at \$15; indispensable farming tools, \$20, and an ox-cart, \$30. A log house containing four rooms could be built for about \$200. Wheat was reckoned at three shillings a bushel. Four shillings was the price of a day's labor for a mechanic. Sixty dollars would buy a horse. Tailors charged six shillings for making a pair of breeches, eight shillings for making a coat. "For the use of a horse, three pence per mile for 153 miles." "For ride of my mare, 20 miles, six shillings, eight pence." Farm hands were paid eight to eleven dollars per month when they could be obtained. The rate paid for help in the haying season was fifty cents per day. At the saw mills ordinary timber was worth \$3.50 per thousand.

The best economy advised home manufacturing to every possible extent. The farmer himself made everything he needed as far as he could, and called on his neighbors to help him in emergencies. Where he left off the blacksmith and wagon-maker, the saw mill and grist mill took hold. Each community necessarily was in a large degree self-supporting. A blacksmith not only made shoes for horses, and iron for wagons, but to him the farmers went for their forks and rakes also. Every farmer's wife saw that yarn was provided for stockings and mittens, as well as flannel for underwear. Some homes had looms for weaving a coarse cloth. This huge machine was kept in a room apart, or

under the sloping roof of the "bock stoep," Children were set at work as soon as they were able to spin and card. Itinerant weavers were often hired to operate the loom. In later years mills to card the wool into rolls, and also to color, full and dress the cloth, were common throughout the country.

The slaves were decently treated and did not feel their bondage. Anything else than kind treatment was impossible from their God-fearing masters. Indians were occasional visitors. Once a year the tribes were permitted to visit Manhattan. People came long distances to the Dutch Reformed Church at Tappantown. The first edifice was erected during the ministration of the Rev. Mr. Bertholf. It was constructed of stone. When the first settled pastor, the Rev. Frederic Muzelius, came, in 1724, services were held each Lord's day, morning and afternoon. The slaves sat in the gallery, and the minister usually had some words for their particular benefit. Religious exercises and observances, and church affairs in general, filled a large part of life. The privilege of hearing the gospel expounded was a privilege indeed. Sabbath observance was strict, the whole time being spent as the catechism commanded. The day was not ended until the catechism had been recited in whole or part in the family circle, portions of Scripture read, and the blessing of the Heavenly Father asked on bended knee.

Apart from religious exercises, the Dutch had many pretty customs. The birth of a child was announced to the neighborhood by hanging an elaborately trimmed pin cushion on the knocker of the front door, a blue cushion to signify a boy, a white one for a girl. The cushion may have been brought from the Dutchland, or made by the grandma or auntie; at any rate, the practice was to hand it down from one generation to another, it being as handsome as taste and skill could devise. A cushion having many names and dates embroidered upon it constituted a sort of family record. At the same time, the head of the house saw that the record in the family Bible was complete. Each birth was celebrated in due season by a caudle party. Elaborate preparations were made for the feast. Cookies, "achlerlingen," krullers and "olykoecks" were made in great number, but the particular dainty of the occasion was the "caudle," the component elements of which were a secret in every family. A recipe that has been handed down in one family specifies three gallons of water, seven pounds of sugar, oatmeal, spice, rasins, lemons by the quart, and two gallons of the best Madeira wine. This seductive and

sometimes bewildering mixture was served in a large bowl, around which were hung quaint little spoons, so that each person could ladle out enough for his china cup to hold, and at the same time fish out a plump raisin or a bit of citron. The bowl and spoons were kept as souvenirs.

Any festivity, business or ceremony calling for a meeting of the neighbors was always well responded to either from a sense of duty or for pleasure. Such gatherings afforded almost the only relief from the general monotony of existence in a new country. Besides, the ties of friendship were strong, and every household religiously respected the obligations which it owed to others in a secluded community. The circumstances attending a death among the colonists were particularly sad. The loss of one who had left the old land and come across the sea with them, and had shared their life on the frontier of civilization, was a deep affliction to old friends. From necessity or preference, the dead were buried not in a one central cemetery, but each bereaved household had a sacred enclosure on its own farm, though now obliterated and forgotten. The absence of facilities for properly marking graves was one of the misfortunes of most communities in colonial times. In the second generation, when the church had been erected at Tappan, the church-yard came into use as a burying-ground. In the absence of other means of notification, it was the duty of the precentor of the congregation to convey invitations to a funeral. The service for the dead, with the other attendant ceremonies, was a protracted and exceedingly solemn function. A black cloth with heavy tassels called a "dood kleed" was thrown over the coffin. This pall belonged to the church. The pall-bearers literally carried the coffin from the house to the grave when the distance was not too great. Each bearer was distinguished by a small white cushion on one shoulder, held in place by bands passing across the back and breast, and fastened under the opposite arm. After the interment, the procession returned to the house, where pipes and tobacco were distributed among the men.

Marriages were merry festivals. The groom was required to take out a license, and for many years it was possible to obtain one no nearer than New York city or Esopus. The bride wore as many petticoats as she could carry, as they were a part of her dower and a sign of prosperity. A maiden bride wore a peculiarly shaped crown of embroidered silk over a pasteboard or metal form. The attendants of the bride were usually

matrons. There is a tradition that the first young man to be married in Rockland county was Floris Crom.

Until about 1750 the church at Tappan was the only one south of the Highlands. Then two congregations were organized within the bounds of the present town of Ramapo, one called the "English Presbyterian Church," of New Hempstead, and the other was the Dutch Reformed Church, long known as the "Brick Church. It was a law of the province that there should be no unnecessary traveling and no servile labor on the Lord's Day, nor any physical exercising, or any pastimes, sports, playing, fishing or shooting. It was not lawful to travel anywhere except to a house of worship, or on an errand of mercy or necessity, such as for the purpose of fetching a physician or nurse. Even the journey to church could not exceed twenty miles. For an Indian not professing the Christian religion there was no exemption at all; he must not be found traveling abroad on the holy day. Violators of this law, if freeholders, were arrested and fined six shillings, or put in the stocks. Servants, slaves and Indians, who could not pay the fine, were publicly whipped, thirteen being the legal number of lashes. The stocks and whipping-post at Tappan were long the terror of evil-doers. Vagabonds were whipped and hurried out of the county.

The early settlers were worried not a little by the prowling of wild beasts, such as wolves and panthers, and the colonial statute books contain numerous enactments relating to bounties for their extermination. The evening lullaby of the children was the howling of the wolves in the mountains, and at night time all domestic animals had to be under cover. At the same time there was a law against hunting deer with bloodhounds or beagles, and when such dogs were found off their owners' premises, they were to be killed.

The poor were not neglected, though we fancy few ever felt the pinch of poverty. The trustees of each town were constituted overseers of the poor, and were required to annually set apart a competent sum for relieving distress. In the absence of trustees, towns were required to elect overseers. A law passed by the General Assembly November 24, 1750, empowered the judges, justices and the clerk of the court of common pleas in this county to take the probate of wills and grant letters of administration. Until then such business for this county was transacted in New York.

An important highway enterprise was undertaken in 1760, when William Hawxhurst and others interested with him in the Sterling Iron Works and Mines, together with persons inhabiting and holding lands in the county, petitioned the General Assembly for a road to be built from the iron works across the county to the landing at Haverstraw. The Assembly concurred in the opinion that such a highway was not only necessary in order to enable the persons interested in that useful manufactory to carry on the same to perfection, but it would also tend to open a short communication to the river, to the great ease of all those whose habitations were seated behind the highlands, and to the manifest improvement of that part of the colony. It was therefore enacted by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Council and the General Assembly that it would be lawful for Henry Wisner, Esq., Charles Clinton, Esq., and William Hawxhurst, or any two of them,—and they were empowered and authorized as Commissioners, at the expense of the petitioners and of such other persons as would voluntarily contribute,—to lay out, clear, open, make and complete a public road or highway not exceeding three rods in breadth, and on the shortest course, that conveniently could be from the iron works, through the Highlands to the most convenient landing place at Haverstraw on the river. The interests of Haverstraw and of a large section of the county were greatly advanced by the construction of this thoroughfare. Charles Clinton, who was the engineer and surveyor in charge, was the head of the family of that name which became prominent in national annals. His home was in Little Britain, six miles southwest of Newburgh. Little Britain was and still is a district with indefinite boundaries. The Clinton home was a plain farmhouse, situated on a cross-road, midway between the main Little Britain turnpike and the village of Washingtonville. To that place he came in the Spring of 1731, when forty years of age, at the head of a company of immigrants, who had sailed the previous year from Ireland, and tarried for a while at Cape Cod. Being a man of scholarly accomplishments, a good surveyor, and having a knowledge of legal forms, his services were soon in demand throughout the surrounding country. The first surveyor of importance in the history of Orange and Ulster counties, he was the original surveyor of a great many lots and patents in this section. He was prominent both in political affairs and in the militia. At Little Britain he raised and educated his two sons, James and George, both of whom became generals. One commanded a division of the



FORT PUTNAM.

American troops at Yorktown and received the colors of Cornwallis; the other became the first Governor of the State and a Vice President of the United States. All three—the father and the two sons—fought in Bradstreet's expedition of 1758 against Fort Frontenac. The boys, at the head of a small company, distinguished themselves by capturing a French sloop-of-war on Lake Ontario.

The freeholders, having become dissatisfied with the method of levying taxes, a law was passed by the Assembly, in 1764, for a more equal taxation in the county of Orange. Each town was authorized to elect an assessor, who should be a member of a board of county assessors. These assessors were required to meet annually on the second Tuesday of April, and proceed to perform their duties in the following prescribed manner. "They shall proceed all together from house to house throughout the said county, till they have gone through the whole, and shall make out a true and exact list of names of freeholders and inhabitants of the said county; and against the name of each person they shall set down the value of his or her estate, according to the value of the improvements thereon, and of personal as nigh as they can discover the same to be within the county, setting down for every hundred pounds real value stated as aforesaid, four pounds, and in that proportion for a greater or less sum."

A new precinct was added to the county by act of the Assembly, Oct. 20, 1764, when the Precinct of Goshen was divided by "a straight line, beginning at the borders or verge of the county of Ulster, near the new dwelling of John Manno, thence on a course which will leave the house of Barnabas Horton, Jr., ten chains to the westward, to the most extreme parts of said precinct; all the lands lying to the west of said line to be Goshen Precinct, and all eastward to be called New Cornwall Precinct."

What was probably the first "fire department" in the county was established in 1776, when the inhabitants at their annual meetings were authorized by the Assembly to elect as many men as should be deemed needful, to be known as Firemen, who were empowered "on view or information of any fire happening in the woods, within their districts, to require and command every able man to aid and assist in putting out the same. If anyone refused to obey, he was to be fined three shillings, one half of which sum was to go to the firemen.

In 1769 the long-contested boundary line between the patented lands commonly called Cheesecocks and Kakiat was settled by act of the Assembly designating the exact boundary.

Previous to 1770, the meetings of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Orange were held in the court house at Tappan. This place being found by experience to be inconvenient, on account of its situation, an act was passed by the General Assembly (Dec. 30, 1769) permitting the Supervisors to meet annually on the first Tuesday of October at the house of Daniel Coe, at Kakiat, "and from thence adjourn to any other place near the center of the county as shall seem most convenient."

A law passed in 1770 specified that "whereas the ascertaining of the quotas or proportions of each respective precinct in the county of Orange towards the taxes has given occasion for disputes," it was enacted that "from henceforth the taxes, rates and contingent expenses shall be levied" in the following proportion. "If at any time the sum of £3,650 be raised in the said county, Goshen shall contribute £1,250, Cornwall £620, Haverstraw £690, and Orangetown £800,—and £290 for the Precinct of Minisink."

Taverns were required to keep two spare beds, one to be a feather bed, with proper sheeting and coverings, and good and sufficient provision for four persons; besides good stabling and provender for four horses. Another statute required that the wheels of a wagon should not be less than four feet eight inches apart, and every wagon bear the initial of its owner.

Another important highway enterprise was begun in 1773, when John DeNoyelles, David Pye and Ann Hawkes Hay were appointed commissioners to lay out, open and improve a highway through the Highlands from Haverstraw to the Skunemunk clove road, and to the north bounds of Orange county, near Murderer's Creek. Previously the road over the mountains had been only a bridle path. Traveling was mainly on horseback, wagons being few and generally of rude construction, often with wheels cut from the end of a log.

John DeNoyelles was also one of the three commissioners appointed by the Assembly of the Province of New York, to act with commissioners appointed in New Jersey, for the purpose of ascertaining and marking the boundary line between New York and New Jersey. The other New York commissioners were Samuel Gale and William Wickham.

The Government instituted postal arrangements at an early period. The general letter office was at New York city, and from time to time mail was sent out by post riders throughout their majesties' colonies and plantations. For the post of every letter not exceeding one sheet, from New York to Boston, or Maryland, the rate was nine pence. For not exceeding eighty miles the postage was four pence. Alexander Hamilton was deputed in 1692 by the Governor to manage the general post office system throughout all their majesties' plantations.

The first half of the eighteenth century was an era of peace and prosperity for the county south of the mountains. Wealth gradually accumulated and the evidence thereof could be seen in many spacious if not pretentious dwellings. There were grist and saw mills with their great water-wheels at favorable locations; at Tappan Slote and Haverstraw landing were general stores—the Noah's arks of colonial commerce. Sloops made regular trips to New York in summer, and it was the custom to lay in goods enough in the fall to last during the winter. Amid this material prosperity, however, had arisen some political discontent, growing out of a desire for "popular rights" which the arrogant British governors were disposed to deny. Although the General Assembly faithfully represented the interests of the people at large, its members held office during the pleasure of the governor, and until he was pleased to dissolve the assembly, no new election could take place. Governor (Admiral) Clinton told the Assembly that it had no authority to sit but by the King's commission and instructions to him. Struggles over the revenue between governor and assembly were constant features of the chronicles of New York. The liberty of the press, a principle long and zealously contended for, was finally secured.

Trouble was brewing with the French and Indians. French emissaries were artfully at work among the red men, instigating depredations on the northern and western frontier, where signs were frequent that the allies were watching for opportunity of successful attack. Seeing that the difficulties with France would culminate in a great war, Benjamin Franklin of Philadelphia proposed a plan of union for all the colonies, and this was formally agreed to on July 4, 1754, in a convention at Albany. The dogs of war were unchained the following spring, four expeditions having been resolved upon: one to reduce Nova Scotia; one under Braddock to recover the valley of the Ohio; a third, commanded by Governor Shirley of Massachusetts, to drive the French

from Fort Niagara; and a fourth, under Major-General William Johnson, to assail Crown Point. New York became the theatre of military movement and had to bear the brunt of the war. Volunteers from the militia of Orange and Ulster marched with the expedition across the St. Lawrence to Fort Frontenac, and to the defences of Lake Champlain. The successful expedition against Fort Frontenac was commanded by Bradstreet, whose force was composed of eleven hundred and twelve New Yorkers, under Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Clinton of Little Britain and Lieutenant-Colonel Isaac Corse of Queens, with nineteen hundred and twenty-three other colonists, and forty-two Indians.

The strain of this long conflict on the county of Orange was severe. Not only was a slender population required to send forth men to the several expeditions against the French, but bodies of troops were frequently marched through the county, and the arbitrary system of quartering them on citizens was oppressive. Moreover, the Indian allies of the French turned their weapons against the frontier families, and carried the war into the heart of Orange county. The section west of the Wallkill was for the most part "abandoned by the inhabitants," the records of the colony state, "who, for their safety, removed their families to the east side of the river, and became a charge on the charity of their neighbors." Others moved to distant parts. Those who remained or ventured beyond the Wallkill did so at the risk of their lives. Numerous butcheries were committed in spite of the militia that were constantly ranging the woods and the partial security offered by block houses and forts. Heroic riflemen, as well as women and children, were often shot down by the hidden foe. In June, 1758, a detachment when going from Warwarsing to Minisink was ambushed, and suffered the loss of seven killed and three wounded, while a woman and four children were carried off. At Westfalls, on another occasion, seven soldiers were killed. Seventeen persons were massacred at a house where they had sought refuge. A woman taken prisoner at Minisink was killed and her body cut in halves. Two Goshen militiamen, Sutton and Rude, were killed at Minisink; Morgan Owen was killed and scalped within four miles of Goshen. While no atrocities were committed within the bounds of the present Rockland county, so far as known, the precincts of Orangetown and Haverstraw contributed their share of armed men to the common defence. Every man within the ages of sixteen and sixty, unless for good and sufficient reason excused, was a member of the

militia, upon which force drafts were made from time to time for men needed in the field. The war with the French ended in 1760, but the depredations of the Indians continued for years afterward. In 1763 some parts of Orange and Ulster were ravaged; people were mercilessly slain, and families, terrified, fled from their habitations. On the recommendation of Lt.-Governor Colden, the Assembly commissioned Colonel Tusten of Warwick to enlist a special company of two hundred men to protect the frontier.

One result of the war, and of the rigid military system which Great Britain at all times enforced throughout her American colonies, was the training up of military leaders for the great struggle for national independence. Every man was a soldier. Under the law, boys upon arriving at the age of sixteen, were required to enlist with the captain of the troop or company of their district, under penalty of a fine of three shillings for every month they remained out. Twice each year the companies constituting a regiment or battalion were mobilized and exercised. In 1773 Orange county had two regiments, three battalions, twenty-three companies. The meeting place for the semi-annual general training south of the mountains was agreed on in advance by the officers. Cavalrymen were required to furnish their own horses, and every soldier was expected to keep at his home in readiness one pound of powder and three of bullets. No musket was to be discharged after eight o'clock at night, except in case of alarm; then four shots and the beating of a drum would call every militiaman to his colors.

References: Colonial Documents. Colden Papers. Ruttenber's Orange County. Colonial Laws. Cole's Rockland County. Halsey's Old New York Frontier. Green's Rockland County. American Archives. "The Goede Vrouw of Manhattan," by Mrs. J. K. Van Rensselaer. Roberts' New York.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE ARENA OF STRIFE.

The Orangetown Resolutions—Fortifying the Highlands—The Militia—Companies Raised for the Continental Line—Sons of Orange in the Invasion of Canada—The Shore Guard—Officers of Companies—Southern Orange Bears the Brunt—The First Alarm—"Battle of Haverstraw"—A Naval Fight—Duty Calls—Activities of the Tories.

THE interval between the fall of Montreal and the Battle of Lexington was less than fifteen years, which was but a short time for rest and recuperation after five years of warfare. The political strain meanwhile had destroyed all peace of mind. The successive acts of oppression on the part of the mother country were the subjects of consideration and protest in Orangetown and Haverstraw, as elsewhere, wherever men met together. The sturdy, conscientious fathers spoke not rashly. Their sense of duty as loyal citizens was put in the scale of their judgment to weigh against their indignation at the continued injustice of the ruling power. At length public sentiment was crystallized and formally recorded in the famous "Orangetown Resolutions" of July 4, 1774. This action, which preceded the Mecklenburgh declaration of independence by nearly a year, was taken at a meeting of citizens at Mabic's tavern in Tappan, and it made a profound impression throughout the colonies. The opening declarations, that they were and ever wished to be true and loyal subjects of His Majesty, and that they were most cordially disposed to support His Majesty and defend his crown and dignity in every constitutional measure, is proof that the people of Orangetown acted with due deliberation and had proper respect for constituted rights. But however well disposed towards His Majesty, they could not view late acts of Parliament without declaring their "abhorrence of measures so unconstitutional and big with destruction." Considering themselves in duty bound to use every just and lawful measure to obtain a repeal of acts so destructive, it was their "unanimous opinion that the stopping of all exportation and importation to and from Great Britain and the West Indies would be the most effectual methods to obtain a speedy repeal." Colonel Abraham Lent, John Haring, Thomas Outwater, Gardner Jones and Peter T. Haring were appointed a committee to correspond with the city of New York, and to conclude and

agree upon such measures as they should judge necessary in order to obtain a repeal of the acts of Parliament complained of.

The desire for liberty strengthened under continued oppression, separation from England was resolved upon, and the Revolution came. On Sunday evening, April twenty-second, 1775, the people of Orangetown and Haverstraw heard the news which hard-riding couriers had brought, that the now historic Battle of Lexington had been fought. Events now moved quickly. Calls were issued for a Provincial Congress at New York city and a Continental Congress at Philadelphia. The Orange county delegates to the Provincial Congress were: From Orangetown—Col. Abraham Lent and John Haring. Haverstraw—John Coe and David Pye. Goshen—Michael Jackson, Benjamin Tusten, Peter Clows and William Allison. Cornwall—Israel Seely, Jesse Woodhull and Jeremiah Clark.

The Orangetown representatives were chosen at a meeting held at the house of Mr. Yoost Mabie, Jacob Conklin being chairman, and Dr. Thos. Outwater clerk. The Goshen meeting was at the inn of Isaac Nicoll, with Peter Clows as chairman and Balth. De Heart clerk. The Cornwall meeting was at the house of John Brewster.

The Provincial Congress met at the Exchange in New York city on May 22. Orange county being entitled to but two votes, the eleven delegates decided among themselves how the votes should be recorded on any question. It not being necessary that all the delegates should be present at one time, the most regular attendants were Haring, Lent, Pye, Tusten and Woodhull. One of the first resolves of the Congress was that a post be taken in the Highlands on each side of the river, and batteries erected to prevent ships of the enemy from passing up. Col. James Clinton and Christopher Tappen, members from Ulster, were ordered to go to the Highlands, taking such persons to assist them as they would deem necessary, and view the banks of the river; then to report to Congress the most proper place for fortifications. The importance of controlling the Highlands, and consequently the river, was fully realized from the beginning. After the preliminary fights at Boston, the principal strategy of the war on the part of the British was to divide the colonies on the line of the Hudson. Nearly all the moves in the great conflict, beginning with the landing of Howe's army on Long Island, were parts of or incidental to that general plan. The Continental Congress, when urging New York to hasten the completion of

the Highland fortifications, transmitted a letter from General Schuyler at Ticonderoga saying: "Should a body of forces be sent up Hudson's river, and a chain of vessels stationed in all its extent, it would undoubtedly greatly distress if not wholly ruin our cause. . . . To me, Sir, every object of importance sinks almost to nothing when put in competition with the securing of Hudson's river." With the valley of the Hudson as the principal arena of the strife, and the Highlands as the key to the situation, Orange county, of which Rockland then formed a part, was necessarily at the forefront of events. That she bore with fortitude the burdens and sufferings, and discharged with fidelity truly heroic the duties imposed upon her, is a part of the glorious history of the nation.

The transactions of the Provincial Congress at its first session consisted principally, as might be supposed, of arrangements for carrying on the war; and although the representatives from Orange county were prominent in the proceedings, and although many of the transactions had a particular relation to our territory, only a few such matters may be here referred to. It is worthy of record, as showing the general character of the American soldiers in this war, that without exception they were fine specimens of manhood. None others were engaged for active service in the field. "You will have great regard," said the order of Congress, "to moral character, sobriety in particular. Let our manners distinguish us from our enemies as much as the cause we are engaged in."

The Congress at Philadelphia having asked New York to raise four regiments for the Continental line, the Provincial Congress approved of the following officers:

First Regiment—Colonel, Alex. McDougall; Lieut.-Colonel, Rudolphus Ritzema; Adjutant, John Brogden.

Second Regiment—Colonel, Myndert Roosebaum; Lieut.-Colonel, Goose Van Schaack; Adjutant, Barent T. TenEyck; Quartermaster, John W. Wendel.

Third Regiment—Colonel, James Clinton; Lieut.-Colonel, Edward Fleming; Major, Cornelius D. Wyncoop.

Fourth Regiment—Colonel, James Holmes; Lieut.-Colonel, Philip Van Cordtlandt; Major, Barnabas Tuthill.

An arrangement was made with Robert Boyd of New Windsor and Henry Watkeys of New York to manufacture muskets for the New York troops, Boyd to make the gun barrels and ramrods, and Watkeys



WASHINGTON'S HEADQUARTERS, TAPPAN.

the locks, stocks and fittings. The factory was on Quassaick creek, in the town of New Windsor. Arrangements were also completed for the manufacture of powder at Rhinebeck. A temporary supply of powder was procured from Elizabethtown. Upon being brought by mule team to Dobbs Ferry (west shore), David Pye, acting for Congress, received and consigned it to a sloop bound for Albany.

When Congress adjourned on July 8th a Committee of Safety was left in charge of Provincial affairs. Mr. Pye represented Orange county on this committee. One of its first acts was the purchase of sufficient Russia drilling to make fifteen hundred waistcoats and as many pair of breeches. Also enough low priced linen to make three thousand shirts. Also fifteen thousand hats, fifteen hundred pair of shoes, three thousand pair of coarse homespun knit hose, and material for three thousand cravats. The Commissary-General was ordered to have the goods made up. From this the reader may obtain an idea of how the New York troops were attired.

Peter Lent and Gilbert Cooper of Orange county were appointed muster-masters for Captain Robert Johnson's company, then enlisted for the Continental line. On Thursday, June 15, George Washington was chosen by the Congress at Philadelphia to command all the Continental forces. Artemas Ward and Charles Lee were chosen major-generals, and Horatio Gates adjutant-general.

The Pledge of Association, an oath of allegiance to the patriot cause, received the following signatures in Orangetown:

David Lawrence,
Daniel Lawrence,
Kasparius Conklin,
Avery Campbell,
James Jacklin,
Abraham Post,
Jacob Wilfer,
William Martin,
Jonas Torrell,
Peter Retan,
John Westervelt,
Abraham Mabie,
Jacob Ackerson,

David Aljea,
Edward Briggs,
Adrian Onderdonk,
Rain Boll,
Speedwell Jacklin,
Conrad Gravenstine,
Michael Cornelison,
Daniel Voorhees,
John Gissnar, Jr.,
Daniel Onderdonk,
William Bell, Jr.,
Harman Tallman,
Harman Tallman, Jr.

Albert Aljea,
Garret Blauvelt,
John Rycher,
Abraham Conklin,
Nathaniel Lawrence,
Abraham Mabie, Jr.,
Jacobus De Clarke,
Abraham Onderdonek,
Abraham Tallman,
Jacob Conklin,
John Van Houten,
Garret Ackerson,

Certain persons who would not sign the main pledge drew up the following: "That we would not countenance rebellion, nor have any hand in a riot, but stand for king, country and liberty agreeable to the charter, but at the same time disallowing taxation in any wise contrary

to the charter, and shall never accept taxation without being fully represented with our consent." The foregoing received the following signatures:

Isaac Sherwood,	Cornelius De Gray,	Alberd Smith,
Cornelius Smith,	Garet Smith,	Daniel Gerow,
Cornelius Benson,	John Palmer,	John Cox,
Harmanus Kiselar,	Peter Forshee,	Derick Straws,
Guysbert F. Camp,	John Smith,	John Darlington,
Johannes Bell,	John Van Horn,	R. Quackenboss,
Auri Blauvelt,	John Rureback,	Abraham DeBaun,
Thunis Emmut,	Anthony Crouter,	Jacob Waldron,
Thunis Crom,	Peter Bush,	Arthur Johnston,
David D. Ackerman,	Benjamin Secor,	Cornelius Smith,
Johannes Forshee,	Reynard House, Jr.	

In Haverstraw Precinct the Association pledge was signed by the following:

Robert Burns,	Joseph Knapp,	David Pye,
John Coleman,	John Coe,	Robert Johnson,
Auri Smith,	Henry Brower,	Thomas Eckerson,
Adriani Onderdonk,	John Smith,	Harmanus Blauvelt,
John Ackerson,	Alexander Mannell,	James Lanu,
Samuel Knapp,	John Suffern,	Abraham Reynolds,
Abr'm Stephenson,	John Springsteel,	Joseph Jones, Jr.,
Walter Smith,	John Lent,	Jacob Polhemus,
Cornelius Paulding,	Abram Ackerson,	Theunis Snedeker,
Dowse Tallman,	John Wallace,	Nathaniel Barmore,
Thomas Morrall,	David Hoofman,	Garret Cole,
Nathaniel Towenson,	Thomas Allison,	Henry Hallsted,
Harmanus Hoofman,	Harmanus Felter,	Johannes Demarest,
James Hannan,	Thomas Dolphen,	William Bell,
Abraham Polhemus,	Peter Snyder,	Abraham Blauvelt,
Edward Cane,	Rem Remsen,	Matthew Coe,
Peter Salter,	Stephen Stephenson,	Thunis Tallman,
Andrew Onderdonk,	William Stringham,	Garret Paulding,
Thunis Remsen,	James Thene,	Jacob Archer,
Joseph Seamonds,	John Toten,	John Toten, Jr.,
Robert Ackerly,	Richard Osborn,	Thomas Dickings,
William Deronde,	John Dunscombe,	Abel Knapp,
Jerod Knapp,	Jobair Knapp,	Thomas Gilfon,
Alexander Gilfon,	Thomas Kfngen,	Andrew Onderdonk,
Johannes J. Blauvelt,	Johannes Vanderbilt,	Rulef Stephensen,
John Van Dolfen,	Andrew Van Orden,	Derick Van Houten,
Edward Ackerman,	Carpenter Kelly,	Jacob Jirckie,
John Martine,	Thomas Kelly,	Garret Onderdonk,
Rulef Onderdonk,	James Onderdonk,	Jacob Onderdonk,
Albard Onderdonk,	Jacob Coles,	Henry Onderdonk,
Abraham Onderdonk,	Mauhel Tenure,	Johannes De Frees,
Jeremiah Martine,	Powlas Seamonds,	John Voorhis,
Jost Voorhis,	Stephen Voorhis,	Edward Jones,
Johannes Cole,	E. W. Keese,	Jacob Kenifen,
John Hill,	Amos Hutchins,	Peter Kiselar,
Patten Jackson,	Joseph Allison,	Benjamin Allison,
John Allison,	Peter Allison,	Robert Allison,

Adam Brady,
Joseph Concklin,
Abraham Garrison,
Garrit Van Houten,
Peter Van Houten,
Harmanus Tremper,
John Graham,
John Noblet,
A. Hawkes Hay,
Peter Crum,
Henry Wood,
Benjamin Knapp,
Abraham Derunde,
Reuben Hunt,
John Cummings,
"Mud Hole" Tenure,
Johannes De Gray,
John Hetcock,
Aurt Remsen,
Jobais Derunde,
James Shirley,
Jacobus Mayers,
Simond Trump,
Andrew Cole,
Johannes Blauvelt,
Peter Salter,
James Paul,
Thunis Remsen,
John Felter,
Theunis Tallman,
Garret Meyers,
Theodorus Snedeker,
Garret Van Cleft,
George Remsen,
Cobar De Clark,
Samuel Wilson,
Leonard Bayle,
Gilbert Fowler,
Jacob Secor,
Thomas Osborn,
Daniel Cocklate,
Ellis Secor,
John Secor,
Jonah Halstead,
Jonathan Taylor,
James Stewart,
James Smith,
Cornelius Smith,
Auri Smith,
Jacob Jones,
Cornelius Cooper,
Jacob Cooper,
John W. Cogg,
John J. Coe,
Samuel Coe,

John Johnson,
Michael Concklin,
Claus Van Houten,
Roosevelt Van Houten,
Thunis Van Houten,
Powlas Vandervoort,
John Jersey,
Abraham DePuy,
Daniel Morall,
William Crum,
Robert Wood,
James Carmelt,
John Ackerman,
Gilbart Hunt,
John De Grote,
Benjamin Holstead,
John Slott,
John Mead,
Henry Mackrel,
Theodorus Polhemus,
Timothy Halstead,
Abraham Mayers,
Johannes Meyer,
Thomas Blauvelt,
Isaac Manuel,
Jonathan Lounsberry,
Joseph Wood, Jr.,
Jeremiah Williamson,
Derick Vanderbilt,
William Felter,
Abraham Tallman,
Abraham Thew,
James Kelly,
Aurt Polhemus,
Luke Stephenson,
Daniel De Clark,
Henry Tenure, Sr.,
Thomas Jacks,
Peter Easterly,
Jonah Wood,
Garit Snedeker,
Stephen Beane,
James Secor,
Peter De Pue,
John Halstead,
Benjamin Jones,
Thunis De Clark,
Stephen Smith,
Lambert Smith,
Daniel Smith,
Theunis Cuyper,
Wilvart Cooper,
John Cuyper,
Gabriel Fargyson,
Daniel Coe,

William Concklin,
Abraham Concklin,
Charles R. Van Houten,
P. Van Houten, Sr.,
Rulef Van Houten,
Nathaniel Odie, Jr.,
Siba Banta,
John Thew,
Gilbard Crumm,
John Parker,
William Wood,
Moses C. Charter,
Jacob Derunde,
Joseph Hunt,
Thomas Goldtrap,
John Stogg,
William Trunoper,
John Vandervoort,
Jonnas Sele,
Johannes Polhemus,
Daniel Parker,
John Mayers,
James Wilson,
Isaac Blauvelt,
John Clark,
Powlas Hopper,
Harmanus Tallman,
Jacob Meyers,
Isaac Dutcher,
Johannes Remsen,
Ebenezer Wood,
James Sharp,
John Brush,
Jacobus De Clark,
Jobair Lauery,
Johannes Jenwie,
Jacob Tenure,
Thomas Wilson,
Abraham Stag, Jr.,
Aurt Amorman,
Jonas Snedeker,
William Slatt,
David Secor,
William Dozenberry,
John Smith,
Peter Reed,
Joseph De Clark,
William Smith,
Peter Smith,
Daniel Ward,
Gilbard Cuyper,
Albard Cooper,
John Cuiper, Jr.,
Benjamin Coe,
Daniel Coe, Jr.,

Joseph Jones,
Garrit Ackerson,
James Christie,
Francis Cline,
Fred Urie,
Francis Girnee,
Isaac Girnee, Jr.,
Harmanus Snyder,
Grasham Huff,
William Crum,
William Hause,
John D. Tallman,
John Jeffries,
John Hogencamp,
William Stephens,
Paul Persall,
Charles Mott,
H. Trumper, Jr.,
Jacob Mall,
David Babcock,
Isaac Cole,
Abraham Koll,
Petrus Blauvelt,
William Youman, Jr.,
John Parker, Jr.,
John Gardner,
John G. Lorald,
Ezekiel Ward,
Philip Sarvent,

Powlas Vandervoort,
Joseph Jones, Jr.,
Gilbert Wilson,
James Stagg,
Joseph Palmer,
Patrick Gurnee,
Francis Girnee, Jr.,
(2) Francis Girnee,
Henry Snyder, Sr.,
Edward Holstead,
Hendrick Polhemus,
David Sherwood,
Thomas Dinard,
Richard Springsteel,
Benjamin Benson,
James Rumsey,
Markel Mott,
Joseph Johnston,
Andrew Abrames,
William Snyder,
Reynard Hopper,
Daniel Van Sickles,
Jacobus Van Orden,
Ezekiel Youmans,
Isaac Parker,
George Johnston,
Jacob Bartholomew,
William Kempe,
Adrian Sarvent.

Samuel Sidman,
John Harper,
Samuel Youmans,
Abraham Springsteel,
Henry Houser,
Stephen Girnee,
Isaac Girnee,
Paul Ruttan,
Henry Snyder, Jr.,
Jacob Jones,
Thunis H. Tallema,
Samuel Hunt,
John Burges,
Hendrick Stephens,
John Persall, Jr.,
Salvanus Mott,
Thomas Tilt,
William Rider,
M. Vandervoort,
Reynan Gerow,
Abraham Brower,
Albard Stephenson,
Daniel Martine,
Benjamin Furman,
Paul Vandervoort,
John Lorillard,
David Halstead,
Rev. Robert Burns,
Jacob Parker,

The following residents of Orangetown declined to sign the General Association:

Matthew Steel,
Dennis Sneedding,
Rahl Bogard,
Gesebert R. Bogardt,

Jacob C. Ackerson,
Robert Sneedding,
Isaac G. Blauvelt,
Jacob Gessener,

Johannes Perry,
George Man,
Jesse Sneedding.

In the Precinct of Haverstraw the following would not sign:

Roger Osburn,
Benjamin Osburn,
John R. Osburn,
William Babcock,
Tompkins Oddle,
John G. Johnston,
Lodowick Shumaker,
Jonas Loderick,
William Dobbs,
John Pollan,
Abraham Babcock,
Benjamin Ackerson,
Thomas Ackerson,
Lewis Concklin,
Joseph Concklin,
Frederick Post,
John Post,
Henry Holsted,

Richard Osburn,
Nathaniel Osburn,
Abraham Babcock,
Gilbert Johnston,
Abraham Johnston,
William Winter,
Ezekiel Ferguson,
A. Montgomery,
John Johnston,
John Springsteel,
Jacob Ackerson,
David Ackerson,
Lewis Concklin, Jr.,
Ezekiel Concklin,
Isaac Post,
Joseph Heston,
Henry Holsted, Sr.,
William Concklin,

James R. Osburn,
James Babcock,
Nathaniel Oddle,
Guysbert Johnston,
Lawrence Johnston,
Andris Pallis,
Raynard House, Sr.,
Matthew Ellison,
William Babcock,
Thomas Ackerman,
Derick Ackerson,
Abraham Concklin,
John Concklin,
S. Heymen,
Abraham Post,
Joseph Knapp,
Thomas Smith,
Nicholas Concklin,

Isaac Concklin,
L. VanBuskirk,
Peter Wanamaker,
Johannes Rush,
Samuel Matthews,
Coon Fridrick,
Moses Van Nostrant,
John Rider,
John Armstrong,
John Secor,
Peter Stephens,
Adam Deter,
Jacob Sarvant,
John Sarvent,
Henry Tenyck,
James Lamb, Sr.,
Jost Buskirk,

Jacobus VanBuskirk,
Peter Frederick,
Haulberg Bucker
Jost Short,
Andrew Haldrom,
G. Van Nostrant,
Joseph Rider,
Henry Warden,
Samuel Secor,
Henry Arsler,
John Dobbs,
Henry Sarvent,
Isaac Berea,
Henry Tenyck, Jr.,
Cornelius Crum,
Jacob Waldron,
Andrie Bellis,

Henry Wanamaker,
Samuel Banta,
John George,
John Weaver,
Peter Jersey,
Daniel De Clark,
John Town,
John Secor, Jr.,
Isaac J. Secor,
Claus Corlosh,
Peter Vandervoort,
Philip Sarvent,
Jacob Tenyck,
Samuel Bird,
John Crum,
Edward Waldron,

The reader should not too hastily condemn those who failed at this time to signify their allegiance to the cause of independence, for some afterward took their stand by the side of the patriots. Justice should be rendered to those who could not see the wisdom of forcing opinions into warfare, and who for a while longer held to what they deemed conscientious loyalty. It is a matter of history, however, that a large element among the people, more especially those not long over from England, and many who were called "aristocrats," did not enter at any time into the spirit of the revolution. The sentiment on the east side of the lower Hudson in 1775 was such that the record of the Provincial Congress bears testimony that the militia of Westchester county could not be depended on. When it is considered that the whole population of Orange county, north and south of the mountains, was only about twelve thousand (including slaves), and that less than half of this number belonged to Haverstraw and Orangetown, it will be understood that in furnishing the number of patriot soldiers which will hereafter appear, Southern Orange, or the present Rockland county, performed a most distinguished service for the country.

In August Congress passed a law for the general reconstruction of the militia, and in obedience thereto the county was divided into districts, or beats, by the local Committee of Safety, and one company was raised in each district. A company ordinarily consisted of eighty-three men, including officers. The officers were chosen by the ballots of all the members in the most democratic manner possible. The company was drawn up in line before the local Committee of Safety, and each man stepped forward and registered his choice. Every able bodied man,

unless for some reason excused, was a member of the militia and liable to be called out at any time. Having organized this force, Congress proceeded to form companies called Minute Men, by taking every fourth man from the militia and assigning him to duty as a "minute man." Whenever whole companies offered their services as minute men they were commanded by the officers already chosen. Otherwise, militia officers were appointed for the minute men according to rank. The minute men met once each week for drill, and the other troops once a month. The militia regiments of the counties of New York, Kings and Richmond were formed into one brigade; the Dutchess and Westchester men into another brigade; the Orange and Ulster men constituted a brigade under General George Clinton, and the Queens and Suffolk troops were brigaded together.

When the Provincial Committee of Safety met again, in September, John Haring of Orangetown was unanimously chosen chairman. In October the first batteries were completed in the Highlands, and the colors raised over them. The first fortifications were situated on Constitution Island, or Marteleaer's Rock, as the name then was. Colonel Hays of Haverstraw was appointed commissary for all the militia north of Kingsbridge when in service on the west side of the Hudson. Captain Hutchins was appointed commander of the minute men of Haverstraw. (It may be well to state here that the minute men as a distinct organization had but a brief existence.) The militia of Orangetown were constituted one regiment, and the militia of Haverstraw another. The Orangetown soldiers elected the following officers:

Colonel, Abraham Lent; Lieut.-Colonel, Johannes David Blauvelt; Major, Johannes Joseph Blauvelt; Adjutant, Jacobus De Clark; Quartermaster, Isaac Perry.

Southern Company—Captain, Johannes Jacobus Blauvelt; First Lieutenant, James Lent; Second Lieutenant, James Smith; Ensign, Henry V. Verbryck.

Northern Company—Captain, Isaac Smith; First Lieutenant, Johannes Isaac Blauvelt; Second Lieutenant, William Sickles; Ensign, Lambert Smith.

Eastern Company—Captain, Johannes Bell; First Lieutenant, John Sitcher; Second Lieutenant, William Graham; Ensign, Daniel Onderdonk.

Estimating each company's strength at eighty men gives a battalion strength of 240. The total white population of Orangetown at that time was scarcely one thousand. Colonel Lent was an experienced officer, but he had his own troubles. His battalion was chiefly composed of those who understood but little English, and he found it impossible to drill them in a proper manner. In March of the following year he gave up in despair and resigned his commission. The command then devolved on Lieutenant-Colonel David Blauvelt.

Colonel Hay was the first commander of the Haverstraw militia regiment, but the names of the other regimental officers were not spread on the minutes of Congress.

A minute company was organized in Haverstraw precinct, with the following officers: Capt., Benjamin Coe; First Lieut., Abram Onderdonk; Second Lieut., Paulis M. Vandervoort; Ensign, Daniel Coe, Jr.

The various minute companies of the county were organized into one regiment, for which the county committee selected the officers: Colonel Isaac Nicoll of Goshen; Lieut.-Col., Gilbert Cooper of Haverstraw; First Major, Hendrick Vanderlinder Verbryck of Tappan; Second Major, Hezekiah Howell of Blooming Grove.

In February, 1776, David Pye, who was chairman of a committee on the south side of the mountain, recommended the following for officers in two companies for the Continental line, "upon the probability that they will be completed:" (1) Capt., Amos Hutchins; First Lieut., Patrick Jackson; Second Lieut., Robert Wood; Ensign, George Johnston. (2) Capt., Auri King; First Lieut., William Sickler; Second Lieut., John D. Coe; Ensign, Peter Oblenus. It was subsequently decided by Congress that one company only was needed from this section of the county, and Amos Hutchins was appointed captain. Presumably Peter Jackson was at the same time appointed First Lieutenant; Robert Wood, Second Lieutenant, and George Johnston, Ensign.

A military company was mustered at Kakiat, in February, 1776, with the following officers: Capt., Reynard Quackenboss; First Lieut., Garret Eckerson; Second Lieut., Jacob TenEyck; Ensign, Roger Osborn.

The first request for troops from Orange county for general service came in November, '75, when the Continental Congress asked for 67 men to assist in garrisoning the Highland batteries. Ulster and Dutchess each contributed the same number for the same purpose. A large stock of provisions had by this time been stored at the forts. The next order

of the kind took Hutchins' minute men from Haverstraw, Robert Johnson's from Clarkstown, and Denton's from Goshen, to join the First (Ritzema's) Continental Regiment at New York. Subsequently they were assigned to Colonel James Clinton's regiment, the Third. Upon their departure from Haverstraw, Hutchins' men were supplied with powder from Edward Kiers' store, at the order of the Provincial Congress. In March, '76, sixty-five privates were drafted out of Colonel Hay's regiment of militia and thirty-five from Colonel Blauvelt's, and all sent to New York, under Captain Isaac Blauvelt, for service in the Continental line. Seven men in Captain Avery Blauvelt's militia company, at Haverstraw, who refused to obey the draft, were arrested and sent to New York under guard. The several companies thus sent to New York went with the expedition under Montgomery to the invasion of Canada. They were well armed and uniformed, wearing blue broadcloth dressescoats, with crimson cuffs and facings. Each of the four regiments had a different uniform, at least so far as related to the colors of the coats. The breeches came only to the knee, where the long homespun stockings began. Add the black broad-brimmed felt hats and you have a picture of the Continentals. The gallantry they displayed and the sufferings they endured, in the vain attempt to take Quebec with an insufficient force, are known to all.

Early in July General Howe landed, first on Staten Island, and on the 27th of the following month the Battle of Long Island was fought. The disparity between the forces was too great to render the result doubtful. The British secured New York city and the control of the lower Hudson, for Washington was compelled to retreat in the course of the following month to Harlem Heights, and then to White Plains, where, on October 28, a battle was fought. The American divisions retreated into New Jersey, and on November 16 Fort Washington was taken by the British; two days later Fort Lee fell. Owing to these reverses, the Fourth Provisional Congress was compelled to move from New York city to Harlem, Kingsbridge, Yonkers, White Plains and Fishkill. The delegates to that Congress from this county were John Haring, David Pyc, Thomas Outwater, Joshua H. Smith, Isaac Sherwood, William Allison, Archibald Little and Jeremiah Clarke.

The fortifications that had been erected on Constitution Island were not considered satisfactory by commissioners sent by the Continental Congress to inspect them. Lord Sterling reported that Mr. Romans,

the engineer, had "displayed his genius at very great expense and to very little public advantage." The construction of Fort Montgomery on the north side of Poplopen's kill had then been ordered. This fort when completed consisted of open lines, "faced with fascines and filled in with strong, good loam." There was a small redoubt on the hill in the rear of the main works for defence against an attack on the land side. The garrison at Fort Montgomery in June, 1776, consisted of three companies of Colonel James Clinton's regiment, in all about one hundred and sixty men, and the force at Fort Constitution consisted of two companies of the same regiment and Captain Wisner's company of minute men. All these were from Orange and Ulster counties. Upon the appearance of the British at New York, the construction of another fort was commenced on the south side of Poplopen's kill, and on higher ground than where Fort Montgomery stood. At the same time orders were issued for the construction of a boom with chain to be stretched across the river from Fort Montgomery to Anthony's Nose, where there was a fortified position for protecting the eastern end of the unique obstruction to navigation. In front of the massive construction of logs and chains, two cables were to be suspended, with their ends fastened to the shores. Several armed vessels, including the *Montgomery* and the *Congress*, were stationed above the batteries. The armament of Fort Montgomery comprised four 32-pounders, ten 12-pounders, ten 6-pounders, one 3-pounder on field carriage, and two 2-pounders on garrison carriages. Fort Clinton was nearly as well armed. So far as their front aspect was concerned, the works were unquestionably formidable, and it is not conceivable that a fleet could have run past. They were built under the practical supervision of Captain Machin, from designs evolved by several commissions. The actual labor of constructing Fort Clinton and the works at Anthony's Nose was performed by the garrison of Fort Montgomery, on General George Clinton's order. Unfortunately, Fort Clinton had few defences against a land attack, and Fort Montgomery only a small redoubt. Apparently, no one ever imagined that the forts would be subjected to assault from the rear.

On the evening of Friday, July 14, signal fires on High Tor and other mountain tops, the reverberations of cannon-shots from the forts and the beating of drums summoned the militia to arms. Three large ships of war and four cutters had passed the forts at New York that afternoon, and some hours later one forty and one twenty-gun ship anchored

off Nyack. That night a boat attempted to land, but turned back on being challenged. Fast-riding couriers set out from Haverstraw with Colonel Hay's orders and dispatches, and soon the companies were on the march to the point of danger. At daybreak the next morning the Nyack shore was lined with four hundred concealed riflemen. Soon a barge under the escort of a cutter attempted to land. The cutter grounded some distance from the shore, and the barge met a fire from the river bank that caused it to put back. The squadron continued at anchor until Saturday morning between ten and eleven, when all the vessels weighed and set sail up the river. The patriot troops followed by road. At noon the ships arrived in Haverstraw Bay, and finally came to anchor off the village. Immediately four barges were lowered, with the evident design of ransacking the stores, that had been accumulated there for the American troops. The smaller ships came in close to cover the landing party, but met a determined resistance from the shore, led by Committeeman John Coe. Undaunted by the heavy broadsides from the ships, the patriots presented an unyielding front, and prevented the landing of the sailors. No damage was done by the British fire. The "Battle of Haverstraw" was a victory for the gallant defenders! Early in the afternoon one of the cutters grounded near Stony Point, which was then unfortified. If Colonel Hay had been equipped with artillery he could have destroyed the vessel, where she lay, as six hours elapsed before she was freed. When lying in the middle of the river the ships were out of range of shore musketry, and some were protected along the sides by sand-bags.

General George Clinton was at Fort Constitution when he heard of the coming of the fleet Friday afternoon. He immediately dispatched couriers to Colonel Hasbrouck at Newburgh, Colonel Woodhull at Cornwall, and to Colonel McLaughry at New Windsor, ordering the first to hurry two hundred men to Fort Constitution at once, the second to send two hundred to Fort Montgomery, and the third to march to the river bank at Newburgh, there to await a second signal before proceeding on to Fort Montgomery. At the same time he issued orders to all regiments in his brigade north of the Highlands to stand ready to march at a moment's notice, and dispatched expresses to the owners of all sloops for twenty miles up the river to be prepared to carry down the militia. That very night Woodhull's Cornwall regiment marched into Fort Montgomery, and the next morning came Lieut.-Colonel McLaughry and

his men, not two hundred strong, but five hundred, from New Windsor and Little Britain. The five hundred were Col. James Clinton's men; they had come to help defend the fort which he commanded. McClaughry was second in command in this regiment. Gen. George Clinton had ordered the Colonels to leave the frontier companies at home, to protect the country against the Indians, for the men of '76 were virtually between two fires.

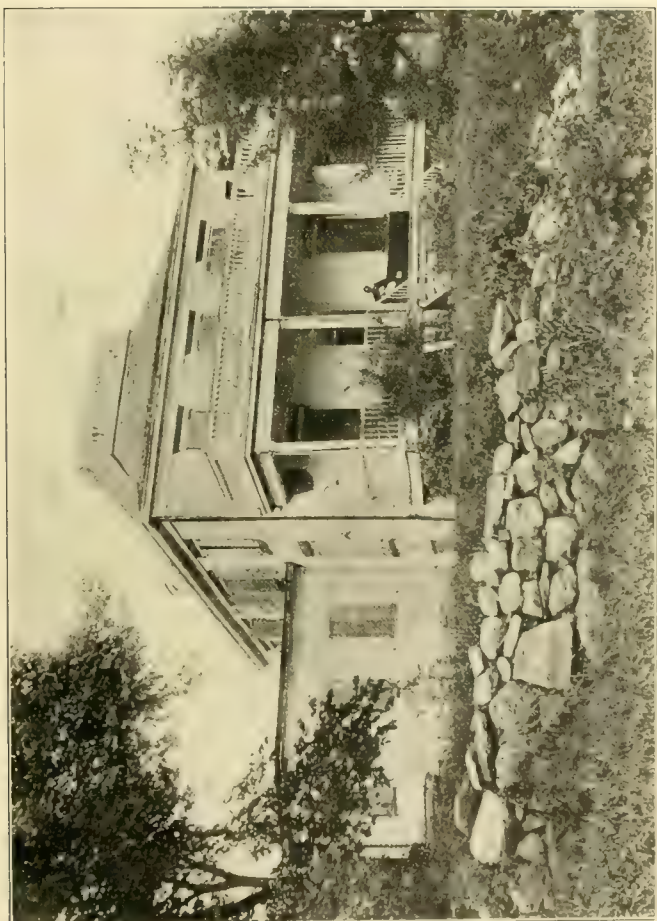
The same day Congress ordered out for active service one-fourth of all the militia in Orange, Ulster, Dutchess and Westchester, the levies to be formed into companies and regiments. The troops thus raised on the east side of the river were to proceed to Peekskill, and those on the west side to take station in the Highlands at such places as Gen. Clinton should designate. For the Orange county troops the following officers were appointed: Colonel, Isaac Nicoll of Goshen; Lieutenant-Colonel, Gilbert Cooper of Haverstraw; Major, Hendrick Vanderlinden Van Bryck. Each regiment under this call consisted of ten companies, and each company of sixty-one men. Every private had to furnish or pay for his own gun, also provide himself with a blanket and knapsack, and every six men were expected to find a camp kettle. The term of enlistment was six months. Twenty dollars, as bounty, and continental pay were allowed to each man.

On Sunday, the 17th, Captain Moffat and eighty men were sent from Fort Montgomery to reinforce the shore guard at Haverstraw and permit some of Hay's men to return home. One hundred men of the precinct were to remain on duty for a week, then be relieved by one hundred others from the same regiment. The commanding general also arrived at Haverstraw on Sunday, and moved the government goods, sheep and cattle back to a place of safety.

The British ships, the largest of which were named the Phenix and Rose, spent much time in making soundings. No communication with the shore was allowed. On Sunday afternoon one of the cutters ventured up the river too far and received a bolt in her quarter from one of Fort Montgomery's thirty-two pounders, which caused her to beat a hasty retreat. Later the same vessel sent a party ashore at Peekskill to commit depredations. They had set fire to one dwelling and to a wheat field, when some American riflemen assembled and opened on them, killing several. The movements of the ships kept the shore guard, and the garrison at Fort Montgomery, constantly on the alert. To

guard against surprise at night, General Clinton posted sentinels on the point of the Dunderberg and elsewhere with orders to discharge their muskets and start signal fires if the ships made any suspicious movement. Non-combattants were forbidden from walking along the shore after dark, and all boats were kept in Minisseeongo creek, near Colonel Hay's house, under guard, with the object of preventing any communication with the enemy. Some large fire-rafts that had been hastily contrived at Poughkeepsie were arranged in line, by anchors and cables, between Fort Montgomery and Anthony's Nose. Some of the "rafts" were old sloops and schooners. All were filled with highly combustible material, to be ignited in case of attack, not only for the purpose of guiding the aim of the gunners, but also to menace, if not destroy, the enemy's ships. Along the east shore General Clinton had prepared large piles of brush, wood and leaves, with sentries at hand to fire them on the signal being given from below. The General was especially apprehensive of the enemy selecting a dark night to slip by. One night a deserter from the *Rose* swam ashore, and Colonel Hay and Captain Nicoll pumped him dry and forwarded the information to General Clinton, who in turn transmitted it to New York. From the sailor it was learned that the name of the captain of the *Phenix* was Parker, and that Wallace was the name of the captain of the *Rose*. Captain Wallace himself on one occasion, the sailor said, had led a shore party that destroyed a poor man's house at a lonely place under the mountain. The captain had taken for his share of the loot a handkerchief full of salad and a pig.

As from time to time the shore guard was changed various officers were in charge. Colonel Hay was tireless and faithful. Colonel Blauvelt and Major Cooper were also efficient. Others who were on this duty during the period of danger were Colonel Nicoll, Major Samuel Logan, Lieut. Brewster, Lieut. Langdon, Lieut. McNeal and Captain Moffat, all either Orange or Ulster men. The squadron continued in Hav-erstraw Bay until half-past ten o'clock on the morning of July 25, when it set sail and crossed over to the cove on the south side of Croton Point, at the mouth of the river of the same name, where, it is recorded, the crews were able to obtain some supplies from the (Westchester) shore. All this while the patriot sons of Orange and Ulster were building the fortifications on the south side of Poplopen's kill and at the foot of Anthony's Nose.



TREASON HOUSE.

There was no relief from the strain for shore guards and garrison until Saturday afternoon, August 3, when five trim vessels flying the American colors were discovered coming up the Tappan Zee. The hour of reckoning had come for the British intruders. The rattle of the drums as the surprised ships prepared for action came faintly across the water. Closer came the American squadron, and the King's sailors could see that, though few in number and small the vessels of our "new navy" were heavily armed. The first shot was fired from H. M. S. *Phenix* at a quarter past one, and was immediately replied to by the American flagship, which proved to be the *Lady Washington*, commanded by Benjamin Tupper. The reports echoed among the mountains and brought hundreds of people to the banks of the river, to gaze upon the first naval fight in the history of the Hudson. The British projectile went wide, but the course and effect of the American answer thereto proved that the "man behind the gun" knew his business. The thirty-two pounds of iron bored the *Phenix* through. The high sides of the forty-gun frigate offered a fine target for our gunners, and soon the splinters began to fly. The other vessels of the Continental squadron, the *Spitfire*, *Shark*, *Whiting* and *Crown*, ranged up in line with the *Lady Washington* and poured in their iron. The British twenty-gun ship, the *Rose*, and the four sloops of war gallantly followed the motions of the *Phenix*, and the black pall of battle was thrown over all. For an hour and a half the terrific bulldog fight continued. With little or no chance to manoeuvre, it was simply a case of execution and endurance. Wooden sides were stout and did not smash like egg shells by any means; they offered a considerable measure of protection from fiercest gunfire of the period. Only the gun flashes could be seen through the dense smoke, but the thunder of the broadsides was heard many miles away. An hour and a half was a long time to continue such fearful work. The long 32-pounder on the *Lady Washington* did great execution until it cracked. And although the flagship received the principal fire of the *Phenix*, not one aboard of her was killed, and only four slightly wounded. Naturally, the sails and rigging were cut considerably, but her oaken walls withstood the iron hurricane successfully. Gradually the opposing lines drifted apart, and the firing ceased by general consent. From Dobbs Ferry Commander Tupper sent a report to the State Legislature at five o'clock, after a conference with his captains. The *Spitfire* reported only one killed and two badly wounded, but the *Shark* had

nine killed or wounded. The Spitfire's hull and rigging were much damaged, and the Lady Washington had thirteen holes in her hull. The damage to the British was reported as heavy, though particulars were not obtainable. The aim of the American gunners must have been, as ever, very accurate, for Commander Tupper "saw many splinters drifting down." Parker, the English commodore, did not try to renew the fight, and the Americans, knowing that there were other British men-of-war in New York harbor, and, fearing to be caught between two fires, retired to Spuyten Duyvel creek. The King's ships gave no more trouble, and on the 18th ran past Fort Washington and the American batteries at New York to join the royal fleet in the bay below. The departure of the enemy permitted the shore guard and the garrisons at the Highland forts to be reduced to skeleton organizations.

But there was more work to do. Immediately came a call for troops to confront the British at New York, and General George Clinton being assigned to the command of all the levies raised and to be raised in Orange, Ulster, Dutchess and Westchester, was ordered to march all his forces, except such as were needed for patrol and garrison duty, to the fortifications at King's Bridge. Under this call two new companies were formed out of what remained of Colonel Hay's militia, and ordered to report to Major Thompson at Peekskill, there to be employed in erecting fortifications at the mouth of the kill, on the north side, with Captain Machin as engineer in charge. Captains Durunde and Onderdonk were appointed to command these troops. All other companies on the west shore then in active service were dispatched to King's Bridge, and the two troops of cavalry attached to the militia of Orange and Ulster were called from their homes and directed to patrol the riverside from Fort Montgomery southward as far as necessary.

In the battles of Harlem Heights and White Plains the men from Orange county took conspicuous parts. At Harlem, Clinton's brigade twice repulsed and pursued superior numbers. When the British entered New York, many families fled into the country, and scarcely a home in Orangetown or Haverstraw but received and sheltered strangers. The burdens, sacrifices and sufferings of our heroic ancestors are beyond expression. When the American forces were driven from Harlem, the wounded were forwarded by sloops to Tappan, and the court house in Orangetown was prepared for their occupancy. We may well

imagine that the kindly women of the neighborhood contributed much to alleviate the sufferings of the stricken defenders of their country.

Little or no rest was permitted the patriots of southern Orange. When there was scarcely a home that was not represented on the firing lines in Westchester, in the shore patrol or among the toiling fortification-builders in the Highlands, word came that the Indians were committing ravages on the western frontier of the county. Detachments had scarcely set off for duty there when alarm guns were heard from the river again. Another British squadron was coming. On the morning of October 9th, at eight o'clock, three large ships, one being the *Phoenix* and another the *Roebuck*, of 44 guns, besides three tenders, came within range of Forts Washington and Lee. Though "briskly cannonaded," they kept on, with all sails set, and being favored by a southerly breeze, smashed through the *chevaux-de-frise*, much to the surprise and mortification of the Americans. Lying above the forts were two new and yet unarmed Continental men-of-war and two smaller vessels. All set sail and headed up stream. The small vessels (sloops) were captured, but for a while the others, one of which was the *Independence*, showed clean pairs of heels to their pursuers. As they could not enter Spuyten Duyvel creek on that tide, they were compelled to keep on. The wind strengthening, the British frigates with their greater sailspread began to close the gap. At eleven o'clock they opened fire with their bow-chasers and at noon had over-reached their enemy, which now stood inshore, where the water was shoal. At half-past one the *Independence* and her consort, being all the while under a heavy fire, were run ashore just above Dobbs Ferry, and the crews escaped to the shore by swimming. That night the beacon fires were blazing along the river, and couriers flying with orders. Colonel Hay's militia were called to the river again, and in a few days he received reinforcements from the upper part of the county.

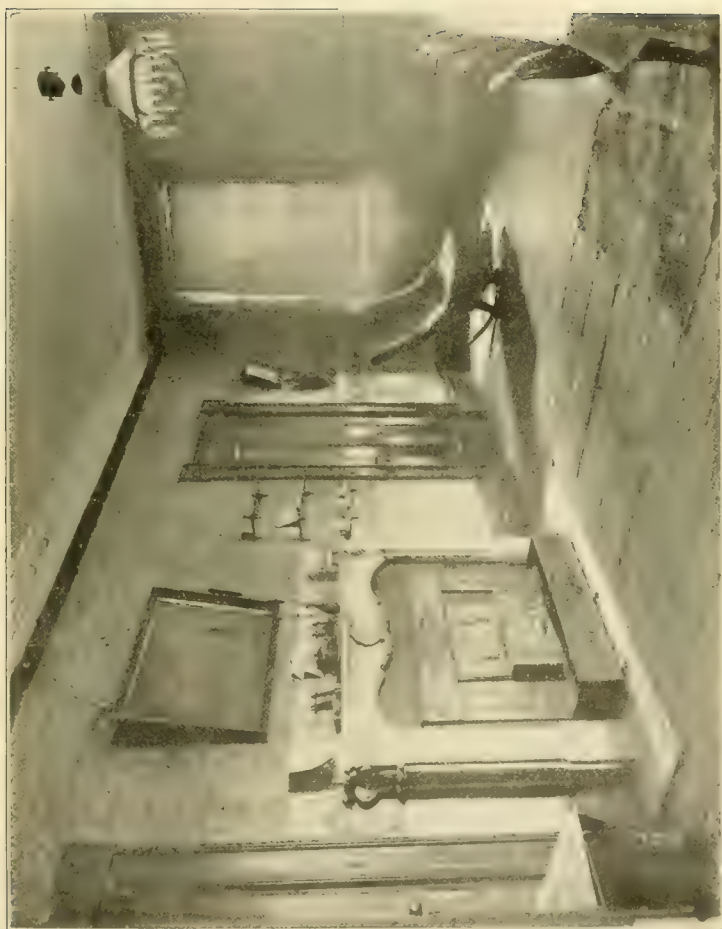
Between November 8th and 10th Washington's army crossed to the west side of the Hudson. Lord Sterling crossed on the 9th at King's Ferry with 1,200 men, followed the next day by General Hand with 7,000, and by General Ball with 1,700 of Putnam's men. Other divisions passed over at Sneed's Landing and Tappan Slote. General Howe followed with 6,000 British, crossing to Closter, N. J. General Clinton remained for a time in the Highlands.

For the next two months Southern Orange was the arena for marching armies, for skirmishes and depredations. The Tory element, encouraged by the successes of the British and the proximity of Lord Howe's forces, became dangerous as well as malignant. Even among the remnant of Hay's regiment were mutterings, disaffection and open insubordination, so much so that General Scott was ordered by General Heath, whose headquarters were at Peekskill, to proceed to Haverstraw with his brigade to cover the stores and prevent the passage of the enemy into the defiles of the Highlands.

In the river opposite Nyack lay a squadron of seven British vessels, with Colonel Malcolm and a patriot force of one hundred guarding the shore, but not entirely able to prevent depredations by the sailors. Colonel Huntington was in Ramapo pass, where he had thrown up earthworks and erected barracks. Winter was coming on and the privations of both the people and the soldiery were extreme. For a time Tyler's regiment was at Tappan, and when it withdrew to Ramapo the Tories and "cowboys," always active between the lines, raided the village (December 7th), cut down the liberty pole, stole whatever they could and terrorized the inhabitants. The next morning Colonel Malcolm's force from Nyack went on the trail of the raiders, routed them out of their homes and hunted them for miles. It is sad that the history of Rockland county is stained with the doings of some misguided sons. The Tories within her borders joined with those in Bergen county in forming armed companies to aid the King's cause, and were so active and threatening in the vicinity of Tappan that General Heath marched there with 2,000 men, including the force he had previously stationed at Haverstraw, and after two days continued on to Hackensack. Colonel Hasbrouck's regiment, from Newburgh, now took post at Haverstraw, and Colonel Allison's at Orangetown.

General Heath found the inhabitants in the utmost distress. The Tories were joining the enemy and insulting and disarming the Whigs, besides stripping them of their cattle and effects. But the advent of so many freemen eager to square accounts completely extinguished Tory zeal in that quarter.

The last campaign of a trying year for the faithful militia of Orange county began in the second week of December, when General George Clinton called out 2,000 men, all from Orange and Ulster, and marched by divisions into the Ramapo valley to harrass the enemy's rear. General



DINING-ROOM IN THE TREASON HOUSE.

Heath returned with his force to Peekskill, after capturing large stores at Hackensack. The British detachments had fled from that village at his approach to Newark. General Clinton, after excursions to Hackensack, Paramus and Ringwood, disposed his forces through the Ramapo valley and across the country to Closter, N. J., on the Hudson. He had strong posts at Sydman's bridge, Suffern and Tappan. Clinton's headquarters were for a time at Suffern, which was a strategical point of great importance. The road down the long cloves from Newburgh here met the great military road to King's Ferry, over which route troops and wagon trains were constantly passing. It was a door of communication between Washington's army and New England, between Boston and Philadelphia, between the colonies north and the colonies south. Upon Colonel Hay, the indefatigable commissary and militia commander at Haverstraw, reposed the duty of keeping Clinton's forces supplied with provisions. The material resources of the colonies not being large, he was often sorely tried. A large share of the supplies came to him by way of King's Ferry, the east landing place of which was at the end of Verplanck's Point, and the western landing in the cove on the north side of Stony Point. The river here is narrow, and besides it was the first crossing place north of New York accessible to the Americans. General Clinton's men spent the ensuing weeks in huts, and in the barns and houses of the inhabitants. Clinton had hard work to keep the men together, not that they were disloyal or cowardly, but your militiaman of '76 considered himself his own master; and when he could not perceive the necessity of remaining on duty longer, and calls from home were pressing, he was disposed to leave the ranks and return to his farm and family. Later in the war a sterner discipline and a better system of military organization were enforced. After the news from Trenton and Princeton, and the winter having set in, causing suspension of operations, the militiamen of Orange and Ulster were permitted to return home.

References: American Archives. Journal of the Provincial Congress. Clinton Papers.

CHAPTER IX.

THE FALL OF THE HIGHLAND FORTS.

Re-Appearance of the Enemy in the Spring—Militia Called Out—Reluctant to Obey—British Plans—Sir Henry Clinton's Armada Arrives—Putnam Deceived and Governor Clinton Overwhelmed—Heroic Resistance by the Sons of Orange and Ulster.

THE successes at Trenton and Princeton refreshed the cause of liberty and a revived hope made the rigors of the remaining winter months for Washington's army at Morristown more bearable. The British were impounded at Amboy and New Brunswick, on the Raritan. Their forces were sufficient to have driven the shattered American army out of New Jersey, but orders were wanting. Cornwallis was in command at New Brunswick, and Vaughan at Amboy, but their commander-in-chief was diverting himself in New York city with various pleasures that appealed to his nature. Howe, viewing the results of the campaign of 1776, was disposed to rest satisfied for awhile. He had subjected our Continental line to a long series of disasters. Staten Island, Long Island, Manhattan Island and Rhode Island were in his possession; Connecticut had virtually concluded that the war was over: the lower Hudson, with Westchester county and the State of New Jersey, was at his mercy. Only Orange county, with its passes fortified and manned, had not yielded an inch. England's squadrons had not attempted to pass our Highland forts; her troops had not ventured to make the circuit of the mountains through the narrow defile where the marksmen of Orange and Ulster stood guard. Orange, the buffer county, with Ulster at her back, stood ever firm and true, while Westchester and others faltered. Though General George Clinton was permitted to spend a part of the winter at home, his vigilance never relaxed; his sentinels and guards were never entirely withdrawn from the Ramapo valley and the river shore. The work on the defences of the Highlands of the Hudson went on through the winter, but progress was exasperatingly slow, owing not to indisposition—but rather to the scarcity of financial means and mechanical facilities. The principal work now in hand was in connection with the obstruction between Plum point and Polopel's island. Lieut.-Colonel Johannes David Blauvelt, who had commanded the Orangetown battalion since Colonel Lent resigned, ten-

dered his own resignation March 1, 1777, and Major Johannes Joseph Blauvelt was by General George Clinton appointed to succeed him. Later the organization was merged into the Haverstraw regiment.

With the opening of navigation, British ships came again up the river. On March 22, 1777, a twenty-gun frigate and two galleys, conveying four large transports filled with troops, anchored in Haverstraw Bay, off Croton Point. The next day at noon a thousand redecoats under Colonel Bird landed at Peekskill, and caused the destruction of all the American magazines, barracks and store-houses that had been erected at the place, with a large quantity of provisions, military stores, clothing and accoutrements. They retired without the loss of a man. General McDougall, not having numbers sufficient to oppose them with a probability of success, removed the greater part of the stores, and himself set fire to the rest. He then, leaving the enemy unopposed, retreated to Fort Independence, about ten miles distant. The British were greatly disappointed in not securing the stores.

A severe blow, swiftly and unexpectedly delivered, this misfortune greatly disheartened as well as alarmed the patriots. As it was evidently the design of the enemy to distress and plunder the shore, rather than make any attempt to pass the forts, Colonel Hay, having now less than a hundred men to protect the ferry and the bay shore, appealed to General Clinton for reinforcements, and received an answer, saying: "In consequence of the beacon being fired at Fort Constitution yesterday, about four in the afternoon, I issued orders to Colonels Woodhull's (Cornwall), McClaughry's (New Windsor) and Hasbrouck's (Newburgh) regiments to march immediately, the two first to reinforce the garrison at this place, the latter to Fort Constitution, a part of which may be expected in this evening, and I arrived here about three o'clock this morning myself. Until the above regiment arrive we cannot possibly spare any men from this, as it is a post of the utmost consequence; but you may rest assured we will give you every aid and protection in our power the moment a reinforcement arrives, and let me beseech you in the meantime to call out your regiment and inspire them to make a proper defence should the enemy attempt anything against you." The militia of Southern Orange received the call to arms in no kindly spirit. The major of the Haverstraw regiment publicly declared that if the men were to be harassed as last year, he would give up the cause. Colonel Hay, desiring to station a company at King's Ferry, could not prevail

on men to stay, as they said they must go home and protect their property, as Colonel Pawling had arrived with all his troops from below and left that district exposed. This was the first time that Hay's men had ever really failed him.

Clinton counseled with his field officers and called out one-third of the militia of Orange and Ulster, including exempts, the total number affected being about twelve hundred. Three regiments were formed from the levy, two from Ulster, under Colonel Pawling and Colonel Snyder, and one from Orange, which Colonel Hawthorne was assigned to command. The Orange regiment was directed to take post in Ramapo clove, and the two Ulster regiments were sent to Fort Montgomery and Fort Clinton. Dutchess county was a few days later ordered to forward two companies to Fort Independence. Nothing could be expected from Westchester, that county being full of Tories, who gave valuable aid and encouragement to the British. The number of available militiamen there was less than one hundred.

But it was one thing to call out the citizen soldiers, and another to make them come, and yet another matter to induce them to stay. General George Clinton once remarked, "Before we are out a week we lose our men, and of course we have supernumerary officers and must discharge them, which can't always be done without giving offence."

The force required in this emergency was slow in coming, though it was generally understood the enemy was contemplating an attack in large force. Not only had the squadron, now lying in the Tappan Zee, off Snyeden's Landing, been reinforced, but a fleet of twenty-two sail had been concentrated off Fort Washington, with many troops aboard. Major Johannes Joseph Blauvelt of Orangetown informed the General that, though the captains in his command had several times called their companies out, many of the men had not come, and some who had responded brought no arms. "Indeed, matters are come to such a height," said Major Blauvelt, "that they who are friends of the American cause must for their own safety be cautious how they speak in public, for I make no doubt we have often spies among us. If accounts we have received from different quarters may be depended on, some of those who have been active in favor of our cause may be carried down to New York."

On the 25th of April the King's fleet, which had concentrated at Fort Washington, moved up the river, and joined the ships that were wait-

ing off Sneed's Landing. While Washington was urging Clinton to get all the men possible, the commander of the Highland district was receiving returns from regimental officers that their men had not responded adequately to the call. Colonel Cooper of the Orange county regiment reported from the Ramapo pass that he had been able to raise only 259. Ninety-six of these he had posted at Nyack, under Captain Onderdonk, Captain Gardiner and Captain Bertholf. Clinton was not intimidated by the threatening demeanor of the fleet. He made the most of what he had to fight with and was ready. "I don't fear but what we shall give a good account," he said. The expected attack did not come; either the fleet was deterred by the formidable fortifications, or the movement was only a feint, made for the purpose of annoying the Americans and compelling them to demonstrate the strength they were capable of putting forth. On May first the expedition returned to New York.

The real onset came in October. On the part of the British it was a long contemplated and elaborately planned series of movements, an instructive example in grand tactics. Three simultaneous campaigns were arranged for, to be prosecuted in three different sections of the country, but all intended to accomplish one great end—the conquest of the Hudson. The first part of the general plan was Howe's combined military and naval expedition against Philadelphia, the chief purpose of which was to draw Washington away from the Highlands with all the troops that could possibly be spared from this quarter. The design was most successfully accomplished. Governor Clinton was left with only a handful to garrison the forts, and the consummate strategy of the enemy also served, as will appear, to hold off Putnam, who was posted on the east shore with fifteen hundred men. But strategy alone could not have availed without overwhelming strength. Sir Henry Clinton's dash up the Hudson was the second part, and the long and unsuccessful marches of Burgoyne and St. Leger constituted the third section of the great strategic plan evolved by the War office in London. The armies from Canada were stopped, but Sir Henry Clinton got through. Why England did not take full advantage of the latter victory and retain possession of the river is one of the mysteries of the war. The fortifications in the Highlands at this time consisted of Fort Montgomery, with its boom and chain, and its immediate neighbor, Fort Clinton; the batteries opposite West Point called Fort Constitution.

and Fort Independence, which was situated two miles above Peekskill. No works had yet been constructed at West Point, Stony Point or Verplanck's Point. North of the Highlands was another line of obstructions, consisting of a chivaux-de-frise and a protecting water battery. The chivaux-de-frise extended from Plum Point to Polopel's Island, and consisted of great cribs filled with stone and sunk in the river, holding in position long iron-tipped spars. The points of the spars lay a few feet beneath the surface, at an angle, ready to rip open the first English frigate that should attempt to pass. It was a much more dangerous obstruction than the chivaux-de-frise the enemy had plunged through off Fort Washington. The defences were still in process of construction under the general supervision of Captain Thomas Machin, who had supervised the erection of Fort Independence and Fort Clinton.

The obstructions in the lower Highlands have already been described. They were practically complete at this crisis. The boom and chain, the stout cables, the line of anchored fire rafts, and some armed vessels of small tonnage, including the Congress, Montgomery, Lady Washington and Shark, were all in position. Everything was in readiness there but men. Calls for troops came from Washington on the Delaware and from Schuyler on the upper Hudson. Clinton and Putnam greatly weakened their lines in responding to urgent appeals. Yet Clinton fully realized the probability of an expedition shooting up the river from New York. He understood that conditions as they existed in the Highlands were at all times well known in the city, the news being carried by Tories innumerable. The New England States were strangely supine. The few militia that Connecticut had sent were precipitate in returning home at this critical period, leaving New York State to confront single-handed both Burgoyne's splendid army and the armada apprehended from New York.

General Clinton (who was now the Governor of the new State) called out every man who could bear arms. Colonel Dubois's Continentals had been at Fort Montgomery since Spring opened, constantly drilling at the guns or maneuvering in the mountain passes. Colonel McClaughry's regiment (formerly General James Clinton's), from Little Britain, was engaged in similar exercises at Fort Clinton. Other regiments received orders to be ready to march at a moment's notice. Washington, writing from Chester, Del., on August 5, intimated to Governor Clinton that he was convinced that the British designed an expedition



MAJOR JOHN ANDRE.

up the Hudson to meet Burgoyne while his own army was being held back by Howe. Relay riders kept the Governor informed of the progress of affairs at the north and in communication with American leaders elsewhere.

As the news of the successive victories of the British invaders was received, the gloom deepened. When the report of Washington's misfortune on the Brandywine came, the Governor ordered eleven regiments to march immediately, six to join General Putnam at Peekskill, two to strengthen the garrison at Fort Montgomery, and three to report to McDougall at Ramapo. Every regiment of the State guard south of Kingston was now on duty. Others were not called for fear of depriving the hard-pressed northern army of that succor which it had a right to expect, and which Gates was now appealing for. The six which joined Putnam belonged to Dutchess county. The Governor had called for half the strength of each, because he knew the whole could not be obtained.

On the afternoon of October 4th Lieut. Gano, who had been down to Peekskill, hurried into Fort Clinton with the news that a British fleet had landed troops at Tarrytown. Immediately General James Clinton dispatched a courier to his brother, the Governor, at Little Britain. The Governor wrote back advising that alarm guns be fired at the moment it became apparent that the enemy's intentions were higher up.

It was but a feint, the landing at Tarrytown, and the next morning at dawn even a larger armada than had stopped at Tarrytown was lying between the headlands of Stony Point and Verplanck's Point. With the reinforcements received during the night, the armament consisted of a dozen frigates headed by the *Mercury*, *Tartar* and *Preston*, a number of sloops and transports, and fifty flat-bottomed boats, together with about four thousand soldiers. Before the sun was up that Sunday morning several thousand men had been landed at Verplanck's, where only a small American guard had been stationed. The landing was designed to impress Major-General Putnam and attract general attention to the east shore. Putnam was completely deceived. Retreating inland, he left the forts to their fate, and Sir Henry Clinton had accomplished one part of his design.

The Americans had no easy puzzle to decipher; who of us under the same circumstances could have foreseen where the blow would fall? The presence of so many troops and small boats was an indication that a

land assault was contemplated. A naval bombardment was also to be expected from such a formidable fleet. And would not Fort Independence be assailed first, being the most southerly? All that day and at night eyes and ears were alert for beacon fires and alarm guns. But the enemy remained quiet. Any threatening movement would have been detected by the vigilant shore guard. But, being apprehensive, the Governor had sent out a special scout, in the person of Major Logan, to report anything of importance. No word came from Putnam, the Major-General commanding.

When daylight appeared on Monday morning, the 6th, the valley was shrouded in fog. Human vision could no more penetrate the mist than the American mind could solve the mystery of British intentions. But as the morning advanced, the young New Windsor officer in his mountain eyrie eventually caught the sound of oars, and when certain that the enemy was landing in great force at King's Ferry he sprang away to inform his commander. Six or seven miles was the distance he had come by rough shortcuts when he entered the Governor's presence with the alarming intelligence. Lieut. Jackson was detailed with a small party to discover further hostile movements. Two miles down the Haverstraw road they ran into the British vanguard. After returning the fire that was opened on them, they hurried back to alarm the garrison. But Governor Clinton had heard the musketry and detached Lieut.-Colonel Bruyn with fifty men, and Colonel McClaughry with an equal number, to harass the advancing foe. Presently the guns of these trained wood rangers were heard sending messengers of death down the distant ravine. Their deadly execution stopped a long British column that was advancing on Fort Clinton. But another was reported coming along the Forest of Dean road to Fort Montgomery. The Governor, who commanded in person at Fort Montgomery, sent Colonel Lamb with a field piece and sixty men to confront this new danger. Sixty other Continentals he sent presently to support the first sixty. His hope at this hour was to retard the enemy until he could get a reinforcement from General Putnam, to whom he had sent for help at the first alarm. But the messenger turned traitor in this extremity; the message was never delivered.

Colonel Lamb wheeled his gun in the face of the on-coming Tories and ploughed their ranks with grapeshot, while his supports poured in a leaden hail from the sides. Shrieks mingled with the deafening crash

of arms. The assailants fell back in dismay, leaving many dead and wounded. They had begun to pay the fearful price which the dauntless Americans demanded for their works. Again and again this column was driven back by the well posted force from Fort Montgomery, while the defenders of Fort Clinton, led by the intrepid General James Clinton, were also standing firm.

The fog had cleared away and each side perceived what it had to contend against. "Eight to one" were the odds George Clinton supposed, and as hour after hour passed with leaden heels, and Putnam not yet come, the little garrison still held their ground. The British fleet remained down the river out of range of the American batteries. A thousand British troops lay idle at Verplanck's, satisfied with holding off Putnam. Fort Independence, several miles below, and Fort Constitution, several miles above the scene of conflict, could not aid their beleaguered neighbors. Off in the mountains watching the fray were belated militiamen unable to get in. The first success in the assault came to the British at two o'clock, nearly four hours after the beginning of the fight, when by a flanking movement to right and left in large numbers they almost surrounded Colonel Lamb's men and obliged them to spike their guns and run. At this crucial moment the Governor ordered out a twelve-pounder, which, being well served, stopped the foreigners' rush. During the next three hours, however, the garrison was slowly driven back toward the fort. At five o'clock the noble fellows retreated inside. About this hour of the day Major-General Putnam began to come to a true comprehension of affairs, and was sending half his force to the riverside with orders to cross if they could. At any time that number added to the Governor's forces would have saved the forts.

At five o'clock a British officer approached Fort Montgomery with a white flag, and the Governor sent Lieut.-Colonel Livingston, who was in the fort by accident, not belonging to any organization there, to ascertain the British message. The bearer of the flag, who said he was Lieut.-Colonel Campbell, demanded the surrender of the fort, to save the further effusion of blood. Livingston replied that he had no authority to treat, but if the British wished to surrender he could assure them of good treatment; and if they would not accept this offer they could renew the attack with a knowledge that the works would be defended to the last extremity. The battle, awful in its violence and ferocity, was continued until the shades of night fell, when the King's legions

broke through into both forts, and the Americans began to cut their way out. The merciful mantle of darkness protected many in the last moments, and assisted them to escape into the surrounding mountains or across the river.

When the fate of the forts was sealed, the torch was applied to the fire rafts by their own guardians. This was an act justifiable under the circumstances, as with the capture of the forts they were certain to fall into the hands of the enemy. The spectacle was sublime. But the two frigates, the Congress and the Montgomery, were also destroyed by their crews, which was a proceeding greatly regretted by the nation at large. They had been built at Poughkeepsie, and with much difficulty inadequately armed and manned. Each carried ten guns. The Lady Washington and the Shark waited for a favorable wind and retreated up the river, the former to Rondout creek, where later on she aided the shore batteries in giving battle to Vaughan's expedition. To save her from the British, the crew scuttled her in the creek.

The British force which landed at King's Ferry numbered twelve hundred men under the command of Gen. Sir John Vaughan and nine hundred under Lieut.-Colonel Campbell. Four hundred of Campbell's column were comprised in a body of "Loyal Americans," under the notorious Colonel Beverly Robinson, whose deserted residence was on the east shore of the Hudson, opposite West Point. Landing under the cover of the fog, the whole army took the road that led around the west side of the Dunderberg. When they arrived after a long detour at the forks in the deep valley between the Dunderberg and Bear Mountain, Vaughan's division halted, while Campbell's continued on around to the north side of Bear Mountain, to get in the rear of Fort Montgomery. While waiting to hear Campbell's guns, Vaughan was attacked by the American scouts, and the long battle was begun.

The splendid resistance of the Americans was the only consolation the young republic obtained for the destruction of defences that had cost a quarter of a million dollars and two years of labor and devotion, not all of which could be paid for in money. General James Clinton was bayoneted at his post, but escaped death and made his way home. The Governor dropped down the Heights unscratched, and from the beach stepped into a small boat which was with others putting off for the east shore. Colonel McClaughry, Major Logan, Colonel Allison and Colonel Woodhull were captured, with many others. To the credit of the

British be it said, they fought fairly and stained their victory with no massacre. The reinforcement from Putnam arrived on the opposite side of the river in time to see the forts taken and the torch applied to the shipping. Behind Fort Clinton was a pond, and between it and the river a neck of land that had been obstructed with an abatis, which aided the garrison in retarding the advance of the foe. After the battle the bodies of several soldiers were found in the lake, while others were left unburied on the land. The bones of the unknown and unclaimed were in the course of the following months gathered up and burned.

Such in brief is the story of the fall of Forts Clinton and Montgomery. Though not the only battle fought on the soil of Rockland county, it was the most important. "The valor here displayed was exceeded by no other instance during the war," was the world-wide opinion. Nothing but overwhelming numbers gave the victory to Sir Henry Clinton. In the British columns were many Tories well acquainted with the topography of the district. Putnam has been blamed for the disaster, but only a force on each shore equal to the English total could have counteracted their strategy and repulsed their onset, and the marshaling of such numbers under the limitations of the age, the place and the population, was beyond the ability of the American people, and for that no man was responsible.

The Fifth New York, commanded by Colonel Dubois, and Lamb's Artillery were the Continental troops engaged. The Fifth was raised in the counties of Orange and Ulster, and included Captain Amos Hutchins' company from Haverstraw and other sections of Southern Orange. Other patriots from the same section were in Lamb's artillery and in some of the militia battalions. Walter King of Orangetown fought under Captain Humphrey, and though grievously wounded escaped through the dark woods to a mountain cottage, where he lay between life and death for seven weeks, when returning strength enabled him to get home. The militia engaged consisted mainly of portions of McClaughry's New Windsor regiment, Woodhull's of Cornwall, Allison's Goshen regiment, and a few of other commands. Hasbrouck's of Newburgh, though originally ordered to Fort Montgomery, was before the fight transferred to Fort Constitution. Colonel Hay's battalion was not called to the forts, but was as usual on guard duty along the Haverstraw shore. The number of men who defended the ramparts was about six hundred, and of these about two hundred were militiamen. While it is

apparent that the Continentals bore the greater weight of the fight, every man did his duty, and practically all were from the same section of country, now comprised in the counties of Orange and Rockland. Governor Clinton depended too much upon the ability or willingness of the militia to respond. While they had answered previous calls nobly, they failed in this instance.

The watermen played an inconspicuous part. In the absence of any statement to the contrary, it is presumed they remained on their vessels and fired into the assailants of the garrison when a mark was presented. Sir Henry's fleet remained at anchor off Stony Point, except some small vessels which at one time during the day came within range and received a furious fire from the batteries afloat and ashore. With the forts in their possession, the British easily unfastened the chain and cables that obstructed navigation. In the course of the next few days Sir Henry Clinton took possession of Peekskill and massed the greater part of his forces there. Putnam offered no resistance and both Fort Independence and Fort Constitution were relinquished to the enemy. When the marauding expedition under Vaughan and Wallace started up the river, their ships had a clear course, except at Polopel's Island, and here they either found a gap in the chevaux-de-frise or made one. The battery on Plum Point was yet incomplete, and the few guns mounted rendered little or no service, owing to lack of ammunition. Governor Clinton collected the remnant of his troops at Little Britain, near Washington Lake, and many recruits came to him as he pursued Vaughan to Kingston. The marauder did not remain long up the river after hearing of Burgoyne's defeat. With his headquarters at Peekskill, Sir Henry Clinton retained possession of the Highland forts for twenty days, when he abandoned and destroyed them, and returned with all his forces to New York.

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CHAPTER X.

"THE FORT'S OUR OWN."

New Defences in the Highlands—Massacre at "Old Tappan"—Petition from Citizens—Stony Point Seized by the British—Main Continental Army Arrives—Stony Point Stormed and Recaptured by Wayne's Light Infantry—The Battle Described—Fate of the *Lady Washington*—The Fort Abandoned by the Americans—Evacuated by the British.

EARLY the following year, 1778, the Americans began anew to erect fortifications in the Highlands. West Point was chosen as the place for the principal works. Forts, batteries and redoubts successively appeared, rising in tiers from the water's edge to the crown of Mount Independence, where Fort Putnam stood overlooking all and protecting the rear. Fort Arnold (afterwards Fort Clinton) on the edge of the plain commanded a wide sweep of the river, and at every position where a foe might appear great guns looked threateningly through embrasures. The river was crossed by a massive chain and boom. The links for the chain were forged at the Sterling Ironworks, carted to Brewster's forge at Moodna and there fitted together. Their average length was a little over two feet, and the thickness of the iron two and a half inches. They were floated down the river and arranged in position by Captain Machin. Their total weight was 180 tons. When complete the chain stretched across the river at its narrowest part in connection with a boom of heavy logs. Two years were spent in building the fortifications, and so extensive and formidable were they that West Point was often referred to as the "American Gibraltar." Stony Point and Verplanck's Point, thirteen miles south, were recognized by the strategists of the day as positions of much importance, but not of a nature to be successfully defended against a strong assault by either land or water. Notwithstanding their admitted vulnerableness, some defences were reared on the headlands in 1778, to serve as outposts for West Point and at the same time give some protection to King's Ferry.

The scene of conflict was for the most part transferred from New York State during the year 1778. The leading events in general history were the evacuation of Philadelphia by the British, June 18, followed by the battle of Monmouth ten days later, the arrival of the French fleet under Count d'Estaing and the massacres of Wyoming and

Cherry Valley. The guards along the west shore of the Tappan Zee and in the Ramapo valley discharged their usual arduous duties. Colonel Hay at Haverstraw was tireless in receiving and forwarding supplies. King's Ferry was not molested.

The year, however, did not pass without blood being shed in this section. The end of September found Lord Cornwallis with a large detachment of the British army occupying the country between Hackensack, N. J., and the Hudson river for a strategical purpose. General Knyphausen at the same time with another part of the army was in the county of Westchester opposite his Lordship, having the Hudson on his left, the Bronx on his right. A war fleet, with a large number of flat-bottomed boats, was anchored in the Hudson opposite the two encampments, so that if Washington, whose headquarters was at White Plains, should think proper to attack either wing, the other might be instantly transferred to its assistance. Washington, however, was determined to put nothing to the risk. Information coming to Cornwallis that an American battalion lately arrived from Virginia and commanded by Col. Baylor, a young Virginian of reputable family and large estate, was quartered three miles southwest of Tappan, he sent General Grey with twelve companies on the night of the 27th to surprise it. Baylor's troops were designated as "Mrs. Washington's Own," because of their being from Virginia. They were serving that night as an advance guard for a brigade of the American army under Wayne, who with the main body was at Orangeburgh. But we have stated only part of the British design. It was their hope to capture or annihilate Wayne's brigade, as well as the Virginia Light Dragoons. In combination with Grey's column, therefore, another was sent out by General Knyphausen, from the east shore of the river, to cross at Dobbs Ferry and get into the rear of Wayne. The enemy's Tory guides knew the roads as well, if not better, than the Continental soldiers. Grey's camp was some miles distant from where Baylor's troops were quartered. The Virginians having posted a few pickets, these were cut off and silenced by Grey's advance guard at 2 o'clock in the morning. Baylor and his staff were at the house of Cornelius A. Haring, and the rest in the houses and barns of the Blauvelts, Demarests, Harings, Bogarts and Holdrinns. The total number of dragoons was one hundred and sixteen.

The British with fixed bayonets broke into the houses and barns, and before the Virginians could have recourse to their arms, many were mas-

sacred in cold blood. General Grey's inhuman orders were to "stab all and take no prisoners." Men were bayoneted and brained after they had surrendered. With shameless brutality the King's swift and silent butchers ran from barn to barn on their mission of blood. Some of their victims received as many as ten, some twelve horrible thrusts through their bodies. One English captain disobeyed orders and refrained from stabbing those who surrendered. When Grey departed he left eleven dead and seventeen dying Virginians, and took away thirty-nine prisoners. The rest of Baylor's men escaped by flight or concealment, but not all without terrible wounds. A merciful mind must shudder at the bare mention of so inhuman a deed. It was not war but crime, and of the deepest dye. General Wayne's brigade, fortunately warned in season, escaped the clutches of Knyphausen's column.

On hearing the next morning of this shocking affair, Col. Hay called out his regiment and marched a few miles into New Jersey, but finding that he had Cornwallis's army to contend with he returned to Clarkstown and sent to Gov. Clinton for reinforcements. Captain Bell's company of Colonel Graham's regiment was ordered from New Jersey to join Hay for the defence and protection of the inhabitants of the southern part of the county. Bell's company had recently been formed out of the Haverstraw and Orangetown militia. Regiments from other parts of Orange county were also ordered to the scene by the Governor, and Washington sent over to New City Woodford's brigade of 700, who after a few days were drawn off to New Jersey. Hathorn's and Marvin's militia regiments, which came at the Governor's order, likewise remained but a little while, much to the regret of the patriotic inhabitants.

From a numerous signed petition to the Governor for assistance, dated October 18, 1778, it appears that the British marauders, after butchering Baylor's dragoons, turned their cruelties against women and old men, "whom they treated with every kind of brutality their perfidiousness could invent, and from thence extended their depredations to within a quarter of a mile of Clarkstown, and have continued every day since to display in and about the State the most wanton scenes of cruelty." The names attached to the petition are reproduced here to record who were citizens in the exposed quarter:

Andris Onderdonk, Johannes Blauvelt, Thomas Blauvelt, Abraham Blauvelt, Uyldrick Blauvelt, Cornelius Blauvelt, Derick Vanderbilt, Daniel Martine, Johannis Vanderbielt, David Smith, John Coleman,

William Sickels, Walter Van Orden, Jacob Onderdonk, Johannis Blauvelt, Abraham Blauvelt, David Pye, Jacob Cole, J. P.; G. Jones John Stagg, Sr., John Farrand, John D. Haring, Wm. Heyer, Martines Hogencamp, Abraham Lamater, Barent Naugle, David Demeray, Yan Nagle, John J. Bogert, Richard Blauvelt, Thos. Creger, Andrew Thompson, James Emmens, Henry Broadwell, Roulof Onderdonek, William Stephens, Wm. Stutt, John Paulhemeus, Hendrick Polhamous, Joseph D. Clarek, Yohannes Nagel, Resalvert Striegansen, Gerret Onderdonek, John Montanye, Edward Sayler, James Quackinbush, Nicholas Cox, Isaac Blauvelt, Peter De Pue, Andris Onderdonek, Yohannes Meyer, Joseph Seaman, David Van Sickel, Aart Polhemus, Andrew Cole, Johannes J. Blauvelt, Capt. John Hoogland, David Van Houta, Joseph Johnson, John Hallsed, Stephen Campbell, Jacobus de Clerek Roger Osborn, Abram Derunder, Garrett Van Cleft, Abm. W. VanDeursen, Peter Vandervoort, Jacob King, William Nagel, William Christie, Cornelius Blauvelt, John Tinkie, John Gardner, Daniel Haring, Jacobus Van Veelen, Tobies Derunder, John Blauvelt, Gilbert Hunt, John Onderdunck, Samuel Knapp, Wm. Conklin, Daniel Phillips, Eli Phillips, Gibbart Phillips, Richard Dickens, Cornelius Cooper, Hendrick Derunder, Peter Crum, Gilbert Williams, Rulof Stephens, John Stagg, John Conkling, Joseph Conkling, Francis Gurnee, Lukus Degraw, Edward Smith, John Smith, John Campbell, A. L. Haring, John Meyer, Johannes VanDalfsen, Cornelius C. Roosevelt, Jacob Arden, Jr., John Sufferen.

During the first week of December the appearance of a fleet of twenty-six sail off Nyack was an occasion for alarm, and for movements by Continental troops. Five hundred Pennsylvanians were ordered to cross from Peekskill to Haverstraw, and Nixon's brigade was directed to the same place. On Friday the British landed at Tarrytown, and after gathering up such provisons as they could find, re-embarked and came on up the river to the head of Haverstraw bay, anchoring at 9 a. m. At eleven they landed fifteen hundred men at King's Ferry (west side), in the expectation of capturing stores, but these had been removed in time to save them. The American post at the ferry could offer no resistance to such numbers, and the guard retired. At three o'clock Nixon's brigade advanced to attack the British at the ferry, but the redecoats fled back to their ships and set sail down the river. They had simply



JOSHUA HETT SMITH.

come on a foraging expedition. Provisions were scarce around New York city, or elsewhere. That winter, wheat could not be had for less than sixteen dollars per bushel, and other necessities were proportionately high.

When the spring of 1779 (the middle year of the war) opened, Washington's main Continental army, consisting at that time of regiments from the Middle and Southern States, was in winter quarters at Middlebrook, N. J., a few miles north of Bound Brook, where the men had fared much better than at Valley Forge the year before. West Point was garrisoned with Paterson's brigade of Continentals. Major-General McDougall was at Peekskill, Gates at Providence. Sir Henry Clinton proposed to force Washington to fight, preferably somewhere in the open. The strength of the British army at New York was thirteen thousand. An advance on Middlebrook would only compel Washington to retreat farther away, while it would subject Clinton's communications to interruption and leave New York in danger. Indeed, in pursuing Washington Clinton feared he might meet the fate of Burgoyne. He would try, then, to draw the American commander-in-chief out of the Jerseys, rather than drive him farther in. A movement threatening West Point, "the key to the continent," might have the effect of drawing him into a position where he could be dealt with decisively. Sir Henry, however, as he afterward acknowledged, had no idea of attacking West Point.

The first movement in the prosecution of this plan was the seizure of Stony and Verplanck Points. As usual in British excursions up the Hudson valley, this was a combined naval and military expedition. The ships and transports, numbering altogether about seventy sail, with many small boats, moved up to Yonkers on Sunday, May 30 (1779), and there took on board four thousand troops, under General Vaughan. The same day they sailed for Haverstraw bay, with Sir Henry Clinton commanding in person, and all had arrived by Monday noon, anchoring out of range of the guns of Verplanck's. The guard at Stony Point on discovering the fleet, began to draw off the military stores they had in charge. A part of the army under Vaughan landed on the east shore, and the rest, under Clinton, sailed farther up and then landed, about four o'clock, three miles below Stony Point, at Haverstraw village. The people fled, but some of Colonel Hay's militia and other troops drew up at a distance, but not in force sufficient to offer resistance. As Clin-

ton's corps advanced leisurely in the direction of the Point, the American company stationed there applied the torch to the block house and other structures and fell back to the mainland, and then into the mountains.

Meanwhile some British ships were bombarding Fort Lafayette, at Verplanck's, and receiving a fire in return. Sir Henry continued on around, with nothing to oppose him, and took possession of the heights. The night was spent in landing guns from the ships and drawing them up the steep sides of the promontory, a work of great difficulty. Fifty-eight men in harness, besides many tugging at the wheels, were hardly able to get up the heavy twelve-pounder.

By five o'clock in the morning batteries had been prepared and opened against Verplanck's. The distance between the points, fifteen hundred yards, was found to be too great for all except three pieces, a ten-inch mortar, an eight-inch howitzer and the heavy twelve-pounder. General Pattison was in command of the artillery. The commander-in-chief came ashore to watch the bombardment, to which some of the ships also contributed. The three guns of the barbette battery on Verplanck's answered with spirit, but the shots directed at Stony Point generally passed over head. At noon Vaughan's corps appeared in sight behind the fort, and the Vulture being stationed on the north side and other ships to the south, escape was cut off for Captain Armstrong and his company of seventy-five North Carolinians. Captain (afterward Major) Andre was then sent with a flag of truce to demand the surrender of the place, and the commander deeming further resistance useless, permitted his colors to be lowered.

During these two days the Haverstraw militia were harassing the rear of the British, but not doing much damage. On the second day five hundred men set out from the Point to capture three hundred head of cattle that the Americans had driven into the country. The militia made the journey fruitless and unpleasant by driving the cattle out of reach and peppering the flanks all the way. Under Sir Henry Clinton's orders, the engineers and artillerists set about to make Stony Point as strong as possible. In the course of the next fortnight seven more facine batteries, nearly all facing inland, were completed, mounting twenty-four guns.

When Washington heard of Sir Henry Clinton's departure from New York he immediately (May 30) put his army in motion and June

6th passed Tuxedo Lake and entered the Ramapo valley. On the following day the Virginia division went into camp near the present Newburgh Junction, the Pennsylvanians five miles beyond, in Smith's Clove, "Widow Ambrose's," at the junction of the road to Fort Montgomery, and the Maryland division encamped between them. From these positions Washington's forces could reach the Hudson by several different routes in short order and in the most effective manner. He could find the shore either at Haverstraw, Fort Montgomery or Cornwall. There was even a possibility of catching Sir Henry in a trap, if he should venture higher or come looking for Washington in this valley. It was the general American hope, as it was the English fear, that he would be "Burgoyned." The American Continentals and militia in the river counties were also moving into strategical positions on the west and east shores, in anticipation of an attack on West Point, which was the ostensible ultimate object of the offensive campaign. Washington resisted the temptation to retaliate at this time, though the army keenly felt the loss of the facilities which King's Ferry had afforded. It was a deep game and Sir Henry Clinton's turn to play again.

The fort at Stony Point had a garrison of 750 infantry, besides a company of artillery. It was commanded by Lieut.-Colonel Johnson. Extensive fortifications had also appeared at Verplanck's. While the works were building, marauders overran nearly the whole county of Westchester. Leaving the garrison and one ship, the *Vulture*, at King's Ferry, the British commander-in-chief returned with the rest of his naval and military forces to New York, from whence he sent General Tryon and Commodore Collier on a plundering expedition through Connecticut. The secret but unsuccessful purpose of the devastation of property was to draw Washington and his main army to that quarter.

By the first of July Washington had moved his headquarters from Smith's Clove to the Ellison house on the river shore in New Windsor village, which, since the closing of King's Ferry to the Americans, had become an important transfer point. The main Continental army, now numbering about ten thousand men, occupied these positions: The center, at West Point, where McDougall was in command, with three brigades of Massachusetts and North Carolina troops; the left wing, under General Heath, and composed of Massachusetts and Connecticut divisions, at Garrisons, on the east side of the river; the right, constituted by the Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania brigades heretofore

mentioned, and now commanded by General Putnam, were in Smith's Clove and at the Forest of Dean Mines.

At this time General Anthony Wayne was called from his home at Chester, Pa., and assigned to the command of the "Light Infantry Corps," the members of which, four battalions, had been posted on the plateau on the west bank of the river, north of and near Fort Montgomery. It was an organization new to the army, and popularly considered the "crack" corps, but by Washington intended for a special purpose, the nature of which he intimated to its energetic and daring commander at the outset. Washington considered that while the enemy were making excursions to distress the country, it had a very disagreeable aspect for him to remain in a state of inactivity. The reputation of the army and the good of the service seemed to exact some enterprise on his part. The importance of Stony Point to the enemy made it desirable that this defiant promontory should be the object.

To that end he instructed Wayne to gain all the information he could concerning the nature, situation and strength of the British works, and the Pennsylvania general, whom some people delighted to call "mad," went the next day (July 2), in company with two of his officers, Colonel Butler and Major Stewart, to reconnoitre the situation of the works. In his report to his superior he minutely described the batteries, the abatis and the topographical features, and remarked that the position was so formidable that "a storm" would be impracticable, but perhaps "a surprise" might be effected. This was but the first of a series of inspections by Wayne. The matter was most carefully considered by Washington, who himself on at least one occasion went with Wayne to examine the position and approaches. So thorough was their preliminary calculations, it is conceivable that everything in tactics which transpired at the assault had been photographed in advance by their imagination. This is evident from the remarkable letter of final instructions which Washington sent to Wayne on the 10th and from Wayne's "Order of Battle." At least one officer unknown to Wayne made an observation at the instance of Washington. Major Harry Lee's legion of troopers and riflemen lurked in the mountain behind the promontory or peered curiously down from the craggy sides of old Dunderberg, losing no opportunity to obtain information. Colonel Rufus

Putnam, an engineer of note, and then attached to the Light Infantry Corps, perched himself on a commanding knob and made careful surveys and sketches.

Up at Wayne's camp a magnificent body of infantry was being fashioned with enthusiasm. The inspiration for it had come from abroad, but American genius was improving on the original pattern. In European armies there were brigades of special construction and exceptional quality to which it was esteemed a high honor to belong. Pride of corps was encouraged by elegance of uniform, a distinctive designation and positions of honor—and danger. Napoleon's Guard was a later exemplification of the idea, but the American republic in modern times has not considered it advisable to follow the precedent. Wayne agreed with the sentiment that pride in a soldier was a substitute for almost every other virtue. He acknowledged that he was so much prejudiced in favor of an elegant uniform that he would rather risk his life and reputation at the head of a well groomed brigade, even though it were provided with only one round of ammunition, than lead the same men when well armed but poorly clothed. "It may be a false idea, but I can't help cherishing it," he added. While Washington did not believe in making too great a difference between the Light Infantry corps and the troops of the line, he promised a good supply of clothing. The country was now too poor to furnish a gay outfit: a pair of overalls, two shirts, a hat, one blanket, and a pair of shoes per man, was the best that could be done at that moment for the ragged Continentals about to be rushed into the jaws of death..

The strength of the corps was augmented until it comprised four regiments of two battalions each, with four full companies to every battalion. The regimental commanders were: First, Colonel Christian Febiger; Second, Colonel Richard Butler; Third, Colonel Jonathan Meigs; Fourth, Colonel Rufus Putnam. The battalion commanders were Lieut.-Colonel Fleury and Major Thomas Posey; Lieut.-Colonel Samuel Hay and Major John Stewart; Lieut.-Colonel Isaac Sherman and Acting Major Henry Champion; Major William Hull and Major Hardy Murfree. Every regiment then with the main Continental army was represented in the Light Infantry Corps. Six companies of Virginians and two of Pennsylvanians composed the First Regiment; four from the Pennsylvania line and four from the Maryland the Second:

eight Connecticut companies made up the Third Regiment, and six Massachusetts and two North Carolina companies constituted the Fourth.

That such a corps became exceptionally proficient in tactics may rightfully be supposed. The personnel was probably unequalled anywhere outside of the young republic. They would not have been American soldiers of the line if other than men of the first order, inured to physical exertion, trained to accurate marksmanship and accustomed to field and forest. America never had to make excuses for her soldiers and sailors.

Wayne was "a heaven-made general." So he was denominated by Sir Henry Clinton. He was a native of Chester county, Pa., and at the outbreak of the war was engaged in tilling his ancestral acres. He had received a superior education and his services as a surveyor and conveyancer were often in demand. He had also inherited from his father a tannery business with extensive connections. Besides being a man of substance and education, he was a figure in society. In an age when homespun simplicity was the rule, Mr. Wayne's fine broadcloth suit, ruffled wristbands and bosom, his jaunty three-cornered beaver and highly polished boots gave his graceful person no little distinction.

The infantrymen knew they were not intended for an ornamental purpose. Their immediate duty as the van of the army was to be the first to meet an onset against West Point. It was well understood that Sir Henry Clinton might appear again at any moment with his great armament. "Whatever means the enemy may employ," remarked Baron Steuben one day to Washington, "I am positive that their operations are directed exclusively to getting possession of this post and the river as far as Albany. If this is not their plan they have not got one which is worth the expense of a campaign. On their success depends the fate of America."

Stony Point, strongly fortified and garrisoned, was a thorn in the American side. It hurt. As a matter of fact, it was a wedge driven into the most important line of American defenses. Another stroke might drive it farther. The British had great faith in the stronghold they had built. It was generally considered impregnable. An American captain who had to go to the fort with a flag of truce was twitted with the question if his people intended to storm. "We will let you send

your best engineer to take a plan of the works before you attack," the Englishman added sarcastically.

The little tongue of land was undeniably a hard proposition for the American military mind to consider. The King's men were more capable of defending it than the Continentals, for the reason that they were not required to provide against a naval bombardment. Nearly all their batteries pointed landward, as the one side from which the enemy must approach if he came at all. The other three sides were inaccessible to the Americans. The garrison, nearly six hundred strong, consisted of the Seventeenth Regiment of Foot, the Grenadier company of the Seventy-first Regiment, a company of the Loyal Americans, and detachments of the Royal Regiment of Artillery and Volunteers of Ireland.

After examining the problem, Washington came to the conclusion that the assault should be made under cover of darkness, and with the utmost secrecy. He favored a bayonet charge with unloaded muskets. Cold steel would be better than a shower of lead with much noise. He desired that the officers should be informed in advance what batteries or particular parts of the line they were respectively to seize. To avoid confusion and fatal mistakes in the darkness, every American should wear a white cockade or other visible badge of distinction. The assault, he believed, should be made in three divisions, and secrecy was more essential than numbers. Too much caution could not be used to conceal the intended enterprise from all but the principal officers until the moment of execution. As the usual time for such exploits was a little before daylight, and sentries were then more vigilant, Washington for that reason recommended a midnight hour. The main attack should proceed from the beach on the south side, and the darker the night the better.

The views of Wayne and his field officers coincided with Washington's in the main, but they suggested that as the troops would derive confidence from the reputation of numbers, it be given out that the whole Virginia line was to support the Light Infantry.

Wayne's plan of operations, supplementing Washington's general instructions, specified a march around the Bear and Dunderberg mountains by existing roads or paths, to the rear of the Point, the identical route over which the British advanced two years previously to attack

Fort Montgomery. There was a nearer way which cut off the long circuit behind Bear Mountain, but the column might be exposed. The distance by the longer route was fourteen miles, and almost every mile rough and wearisome. In the final arrangements it was concluded not to use Colonel Rufus Putnam's entire regiment (the Fourth), and Major Hull's battalion on this occasion consisted of a detachment of the Massachusetts line from West Point. Colonel Putnam did not participate in the adventure, but remained at Fort Constitution, and Major Hull assumed command of what for the occasion was recognized as the Fourth Regiment.

The fifteenth of July was a hot and sultry day. Orders had been issued for a general review of the Light Infantry Corps at Sandy Beach, two miles above Fort Montgomery. The men had been drilled by companies and battalions, but this was to be the first mobilization of the entire corps. It was an occasion of no little importance, and not a little rivalry was manifested. When, at twelve o'clock, the men found themselves marching in a long column down toward Fort Montgomery, they may have considered the movement a part of the drill. But as they continued on and on, entering the mountains, some wonder must have been expressed. At Clement's fork, behind Bear Mountain, where they rested and ate their rations by the brookside, a glimmer of the truth may have passed from lip to lip; and when, on resuming the march, the column turned to the left, instead of keeping to the right, suspicion must have given place to conviction in their minds. The right-hand road would have taken them to the Forest of Dean Mines, but this led to—Stony Point.

General Wayne timed the march so as to arrive at David Springsteel's house, near the lower edge of the mountains, at eight. Captain McLean's rangers had protected the advance that far; they had arrested and detained all stragglers, they had posted guards at every house in the district to prevent exit, and made sure that no tale-bearer entered the fort. Not even a dog barked as the ranks silently came near the end of the arduous march. The English reported subsequently that our scouts had killed every dog in the vicinity.

It was a beautiful summer eve; darkness was settling down; the air was laden with the rich perfume of the season. At the brook the heroes quenched their thirst, ate their frugal ration and discussed in

whispers the business that had been assigned them. Unexpectedly called to face death again, the solemn truant thought and the quickened heart throb must have come even to these brave fellows in this still hour.

Here in the vale, where the corps lingered for several hours, the orders of the night were read and explained. Every man learned what was for him to do, and was encouraged by the announcement that the whole Virginia line was coming behind, and that Captain Christie's Pennsylvanians were on picket duty in front. Wayne himself had gone on ahead for a final survey. Pieces of white paper were passed around, one for every hat, as Washington had commanded. When Wayne returned the dispositions were made and the last instructions given. The corps, which had a strength of 1,150, was divided into three principal parts and each designated as a column. The leaders in each column had all been over the ground. The columns were designated naturally as right, center and left, which corresponded to the places they were to each respectively assault. The right column would circle around and rush into the south side of the works, the left would execute its part on the north side, and the column of the center advance as if for direct assault.

The right column was arranged in three sections. First, a "forlorn hope" detachment of twenty picked men, Virginians and Pennsylvanians, led by Lieut. Knox; next one hundred and thirty Virginians and Pennsylvanians, under Colonel Fleury, and finally the main body under Colonel Febiger, but with General Wayne commanding in person. Meigs's Regiment and Hull's Battalion were in this column.

The left column, under the general command of Colonel Butler, was similarly arranged. The "forlorn hope" detachment was led by Lieut. Gibbons. Then followed one hundred Maryland boys under Major Stewart, with Butler's Regiment close behind.

The third column consisted of Major Murfree's two companies of North Carolinians.

Captain Benjamin Fishborne and Captain Henry Archer were aids to General Wayne. The orders were for the "forlorn-hope" men to deal with the sentries and make an opening in the abatis for the column to pass through. The moment the rush lines succeeded in getting inside the works they were to set up a shout, "The fort's our own!" Until then silence must rule. The honor of leading the "forlorn hopes" was

awarded by lot. A bounty of five hundred dollars with immediate promotion was offered as a prize for the first man who entered the works, with \$400 for the second; \$300 for third; \$200 for the fourth, and \$100 to the fifth. The main attack was to be from the south, and the central assault in the nature of a feint, designed to draw the enemy to the causeway and leave the flanks and rear exposed. The North Carolinians in making their demonstration over the usually traveled road were to use firearms, but the other columns were to rely on silence and the bayonet. The preparations were all finished at eleven, and General Wayne sat down to express his thoughts of the moment to a dear friend. His concluding words were: "I am called to sup, but where to breakfast—either within the enemy's lines in triumph, or in another world."

At half-past eleven came the order to advance. The distance from Springsteel's to the marsh which separated the promontory from the mainland was a mile and a half, and thirty minutes was the time allowed for reaching there. The column led by Wayne passed around and through where the village is now, and the one under Butler followed a farm lane to the northerly side. The North Carolina companies kept on down the direct road to the edge of the marsh, where they waited until the moment came to open fire.

A few words about the leaders. Knox and Gibbons, who led the "forlorn hopes," were young Pennsylvanians. Lieut.-Colonel Fleury was a gallant Frenchman; Major "Jack" Stewart, a jaunty Marylander; Colonel Christian Febiger, popularly called "Old Denmark," was, like Fleury, a soldier of fortune, and had won his spurs at Bunker Hill and Quebec. Major Thomas Posey of Virginia rose to be a Major-General in the war of 1812, and was the second Governor of Indiana. Colonel Meigs had served under Montgomery at Quebec. Lieut.-Colonel Sherman had fought at Trenton and Princeton. The reason why no New York, New Jersey, Rhode Island or New Hampshire troops were present this night was that they were fighting with Sullivan against the Six Nations.

Stony Point was a black and forbidding form dimly outlined in the darkness. The tide was yet high when Wayne's column stole cautiously down to the beach. Water covered the sands, and there was no other way than through it. Two hundred yards distant crouched the lion-like fortress. The first splash in the water would mean discovery. "For

ward!" Knox and his gallant twenty led the way into the water. A shot rang out from the British picket line. "To arms!" was the cry that came across the water. The column waded on with guns a-shoulder, aiming to strike the side of the peninsula behind the double row of abatis that extended across the front of the works from the water's edge. The British were running to their batteries, breastworks and redoubts. Just then came a crash of musketry and shouts on their immediate front. The North Carolinians had begun to "amuse" themselves. The British batteries opened and a torrent of grapeshot and shell belched across the morass. The head of the right column was now directly under the fort. The increasing fire from the embrasures above passed mostly overhead. The feint on the front was of the greatest help to the Americans in drawing the enemy's fire in that direction. As the pioneers and rushers struck the almost perpendicular bank, Lieut-Colonel Fleury left his position in line, ran ahead of the "Twenty," and came up even with Knox. General Wayne had been marching beside Colonel Febiger, but before they came to the morass he ordered the Colonel down the flank to reiterate his orders about not firing. But "Old Denmark" hurried forward again, and was not far from the front when the charge up the hill began. "Come on; we defy you!" cried angry voices from above. "We'll be with you in a minute," was the American retort.

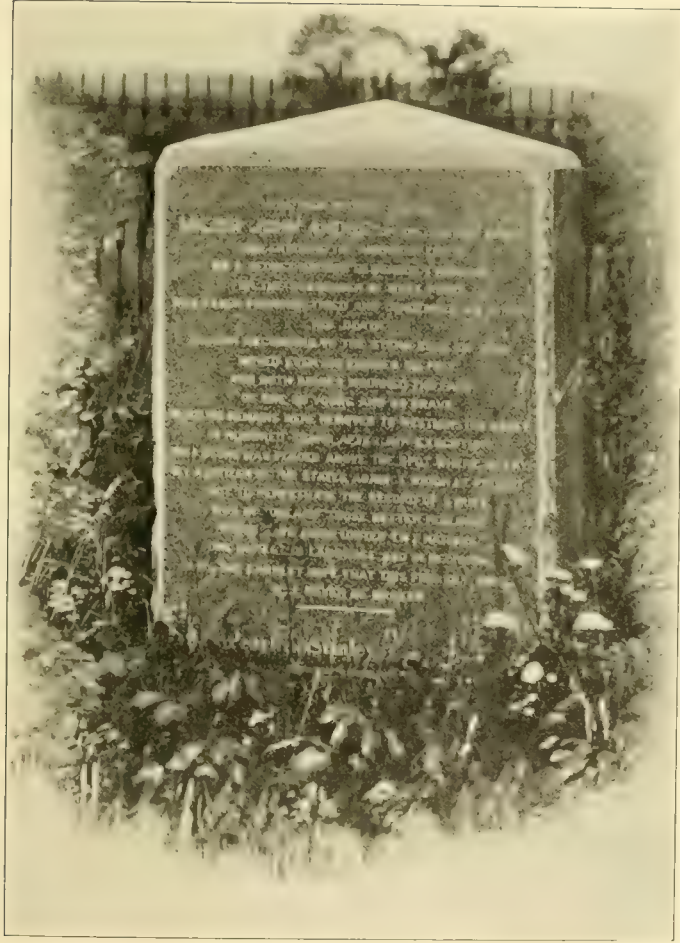
Until now the marching order had been well maintained; not a shot had been fired or a loud word spoken in the column on the right. Fear had departed; victory, rewards and promotion were in sight; the strife now was to get there first. The start was scarcely a fair one: Fleury and Knox had the lead of Skelton, Febiger, Posey, Meigs, Hill, Sherman, Lawson, McDowell and Hay, whose names stand out on history's page, and who necessarily had to keep their places in the line. The first line of abatis was turned by most of the troops, but the second was in the way and had to be chopped through, torn open or surmounted.

The pioneers made a small opening, rushed on, and all poured through the sally port and over the parapet. Fleury climbed a bastion and was the first man in, and the first to shout, in broken English, "The fort's our own!" Knox was right at his heels. Sergeant Baker of Virginia, bleeding from four wounds, was the third to enter. Sergt. Spencer, also a Virginian, and wounded, was the fourth, Sergt. Dunlop of Pennsylvania the fifth. Five voices united in the cry, "The fort's our own!"

The American officers led their companies to seize the various batteries and positions that had been assigned to them in the plan. The white cockade distinguished friend from foe in the darkness. Colonel Febiger went in with the rush line, seized the first Britisher he encountered and demanded to be led to Colonel Johnson, the commandant of the fort. At this juncture most of the British infantrymen and Colonel Johnson with them were down defending the front approach, which our North Carolinans appeared to be assaulting. Hearing the shouts of victory from the heights behind him, Johnson turned back, encountered fleeing men and was informed that the Americans were in possession of the main body of the fort, having come up the side.

Lieut. Gibbons, with his "forlorn hope," was leading the left column toward the north side of the promontory. When going up the hill Major Stewart took the responsibility of changing the order of battle. He directed Gibbons squad to diverge to the right, while he kept on along the hillside to the eastern extremity of the point. With Gibbons was Major Normont de Laneuville, a Frenchman, who was rendering gallant service. With their clothing muddy and torn, they entered the main works boldly and encountered resistance. Only four of the party came through without wounds to join the right column at the summit. They took forty prisoners. The manner of the American entry split the garrison into sections, which were separately overwhelmed. Resistance of a desperate kind was sometimes encountered, and some few accepted death rather than surrender. Mercy was granted when appealed for. Bullets as well as bayonets completed the conquest, which had occupied about twenty-five or thirty minutes. The flag of the fort continued at the masthead for some time after the Americans could have lowered it. One of the Gibbons party struck it and as it came fluttering down a soldier caught and handed it to Lieut.-Colonel Fleury. General Wayne was struck down by a bullet as he paused for a moment at the second abatis. Stunned for a moment, and fearing that the wound was mortal, he asked to be carried forward, that he might die if need be in the fort. The injury proved not to be serious. At 2 a. m. he dispatched the news of the victory to Washington.

Guns were at once brought to bear against Verplanck's Point by a company of artillery led by Captain Pendleton and Captain Barr, and they also directed a few bolts at H. M. S. Vulture, which was lying in



THE ANDRE MONUMENT, TAPPAN.

the stream, causing her to hasten out of range. The effect of the firing could not be observed in the darkness, but the enemy made no reply.

Fifteen Americans laid down their lives that night; eighty-three were wounded. Of the British sixty-three were killed, and over seventy wounded; five hundred and forty-three were taken prisoners to Easton, Pa. The Americans secured fifteen pieces of artillery and military stores that were appraised at \$158,640.82, and purchased at that price by Congress, the money being divided among the soldiers who took part in the fight. Each private's share was \$78.92. General Wayne received \$1,420.51. Other spoils worth about twenty-two thousand dollars were apportioned among the regiments. Fleury and Knox declined to accept the money reward to which they were entitled, preferring to have it distributed among their men. Fleury also preferred to stay with the Light Infantry Corps rather than be promoted elsewhere. Wayne, Fleury and Stewart received medals from Congress; Gibbons, Knox and Archer promotion.

Washington had planned for an attack on Verplanck's the next day, but a series of accidents stayed the blow, and Sir Henry Clinton saved the place by quickly throwing an army in between it and the Americans. Washington had no thought of holding Stony Point, and after the removal from there of everything worth taking, and when the dead had been buried and the seriously wounded sent to places of safety, the fort was burnt and demolished and the position abandoned on the 18th. A British fleet arrived in Haverstraw Bay on the 19th, and Sir Henry Clinton again took possession, but Washington had accomplished his purpose.

The day before the Americans retired, they suffered the final loss of the *Lady Washington*. The intrepid little man-of-war had been raised from the bottom of Rondout creek in the fall of 1777, and restored to the naval service of the republic. When Wayne was gathering up the fruits of his victory, the *Lady Washington* came down to assist with the transportation. She had been loaded with captured stores and was standing off for West Point when the batteries at Verplanck's Point and H. M. S. *Vulture*, with two consorts, opened on her and a shot pierced her side below the water line. The crew had no other recourse than to run her aground and burn her. The Light Infantry Corps returned to their former camp near Fort Montgomery and remained

there until October, when they moved openly down to Haverstraw and threatened Stony Point again. Sir Henry Clinton thereupon abandoned King's Ferry altogether.

References: Historical Manuscripts. Clinton Papers. Johnston's "The Storming of Stony Point." Dawson's "The Assault of Stony Point."

CHAPTER XI.

THE WAGES OF TREASON.

General Arnold Assigned to Command West Point—He Conspires to Betray the Fortress—Intercourse With Joshua Hett Smith—His Midnight Meeting With Major Andre—At the Smith Mansion—Arrest of Andre—Flight of Arnold—Smith Acquitted—Court-Martial and Execution of the Spy.

THE story of Arnold and Andre is inseparably connected with the history of Rockland County. Here the remarkable drama in real life was mostly played; the territory of the old county, with its fortified passes, was the prize in the game of war and conspiracy. The King's cause was declining, the people's strengthening; France had come to the aid of the new States. West Point, "the key to the continent," was their great fortress and arsenal, the unbreakable, choking grip on the neck of Oppression. Major-General Benedict Arnold, then high in the affections of his countrymen, the most conspicuous fighter that the war had produced, a fearless leader and consummate strategist, had been entrusted with the command of this department. And inasmuch as he was now lame from wounds received in fighting the battles of his country, the general feeling was that the assignment was a singularly fitting one. Washington even contemplated giving Arnold the command of the American division of the allied army in a proposed attack on New York.

But the people did not know their man. Arnold had applied for the appointment of the most important military command in the country, next to that of commander-in-chief, with no other intention than to betray it. The proof of this was left by Sir Henry Clinton. For eighteen months previous to the discovery of the treason he was in correspondence with the unfaithful American officer. Count back eighteen months from September 24, 1780, and we find that Arnold was then stationed in Philadelphia as the military governor, and was about to be

married to the daughter of a leading royalist. He had assumed the command of that city, by the direction of Washington, on June 19, 1778, the day following the evacuation by the British. As the military governor, the hero of many battles and occupying the pretentious mansion erected by William Penn, he was a considerable figure in the national capital. Not being an adherent of the doctrine of democratic simplicity, he added to the dignity of his official position a luxurious style of living, and further ornamented his career by winning the hand of beautiful Peggy Shippen. Few young men in all the world's history had ever risen to such a height of glory so quickly; no war of America since has been illuminated by such a bright military-meteor. In Philadelphia he reached the zenith of his career as a man of honor, and there, too, began his sensational downfall.

It will be found that at the date when his epistolary correspondence with Sir Henry Clinton began, he was writhing under humiliating and unjust imputations. He had been required in the discharge of his duty to enforce certain unpopular regulations, and a feeling of animosity had been engendered which he took no trouble to conciliate. His ostentatious style of living, incurring expenses which he was not able to liquidate, his attentions to Miss Shippen, and in general his intimacies with loyalist families, were also subjects of criticism by the republicans.

The feeling of hostility towards him in certain circles culminated in charges being preferred to Congress by the Executive Council of the city and spread broadcast through the land a few weeks before his marriage. Though they had their origin in the violence of party strife in time of war, they sufficed to bring great discredit upon him. Arnold's chief offense was not charged in the official indictment, and consisted in giving an entertainment to which not only Tory ladies, but the wives and daughters of persons proscribed by the State were admitted. Answering this, he said he was not making war on women. The charges hung for a year ere a decision was rendered. The defendant grieved under the delay, which was all the more irritating because it clouded his courtship and honeymoon, and provoked his resignation as military governor. It was at this crisis that he listened to temptation. Loyalists of prominence expressed sympathy and exaggerated the injustice of his country. They prepared his mind for overtures which came from New York; but

it is not believed that Arnold committed himself fully until final judgment was rendered and the pending case closed by the public censure administered by Washington.

"I reprimand you," said the General, "for having forgotten that in proportion as you had rendered yourself formidable to our enemies, you should have been guarded in your deportment toward your fellow citizens. Exhibit anew those noble qualities which have placed you on the list of our most valued commanders. I shall myself furnish you, as far as it may be in my power, with opportunities for regaining the esteem of your country."

In such a reprimand Arnold might have discovered eulogy implied, but it remained a humiliation and not the first that Arnold had suffered at the hands of Congress. Wire-pulling was not a science unknown in army circles, and Arnold, as well as other heroic leaders, had in times past felt the cruelty of favoritism. His social prestige in the city had been irretrievably damaged; he was heavily in debt and looked forward to the restoration of peace and the disbandment of the army with apprehension. He feared that he might not be so successful in the paths of peace as he had been on the battle-field. This much he revealed.

The combination of circumstances which led him into the web of conspiracy cannot be traced. The secret perished with the chief actors. Only a few suggestive facts have been handed down. Mrs. Arnold was personally acquainted with Major Andre. Their acquaintance began under parental auspices, when the British occupied Philadelphia. Letters from Andre reached her home after he had departed from their city. It has been surmised that this acquaintance to some extent introduced the correspondence between Sir Henry Clinton and General Arnold. To what extent Mrs. Arnold was implicated in the final conspiracy was never exhibited. Arnold declared and Washington believed her to be innocent. Her youth was her best defence.

The subject matter of the correspondence at the beginning was never revealed, except that Sir Henry Clinton stated that it was carried on under the guise of commercial transactions. Not until the traitor obtained the command of "West Point and its dependencies" was it in his power to do much damage to the American cause. He received the appointment after personal application to Washington, and General Schuyler and others, upon his request, employed their influence in his

behalf. Arnold gave his lameness as a reason for preferring this post to service in the field. Hitherto he had referred to his wounds as an excuse for inaction.

On taking up his duties the first week in August, 1780, Arnold established his headquarters at the Beverly Robinson house, at Garrison. Robinson having joined the Royalists, the Government had confiscated his real estate. Arnold now had something of value in his basket to take to the market of treason.

When on the way to his appointment, General Arnold with his family alighted at the hospitable mansion of Mr. Joshua Hett Smith, at Haverstraw, on the road to King's Ferry. Mr. Smith spread his table with cheerfulness for their entertainment, and conceived the General's acquaintance "an honorable acquisition." The host was a gentleman of education and large means. His father, a lawyer, who died in 1769, had obtained political and professional prominence during a long career in New York city, under and somewhat with the favor of English governors; an older brother, William, followed in their father's steps and became Chief Justice of Canada, and now was Chief Justice of the Province of New York, besides the author of "Smith's History of New York," a work of celebrity. General and Governor George Clinton had studied for the bar in the office of Judge Smith at New York. Joshua Hett Smith, also a lawyer, was the youngest of six brothers, and there were several sisters. The family connections were wide and influential. Colonel A. Hawks Hay and Colonel Lamb of artillery fame were connected with the family by ties of marriage.

It is difficult to analyze the political sentiments of the family. Only one of the brothers so far as known, Thomas, refused to sign the Association, and he afterward gave unmistakable evidence of his friendship for the revolution. Had Joshua Hett Smith been in sympathy with the Royalist cause, instead of being the revolutionist he professed to be, he would still have been nowise different from many of his county neighbors. The avowed Royalists of America were so numerous that they furnished twenty thousand men for the King's armies during the course of the war. In common with everybody else immediately descended from English parents, the Smiths of Haverstraw were suspected of disaffection to the American cause. The family had reason to be perplexed, having social and business ties on both sides, and much at stake.

For two years Judge William Smith, the elder brother, continued within the American lines. Being a prominent personage, he was the object of no little public attention. Principally because of his past relations to the British government, he was by some called a spy. Whether justified or not, the feeling against him culminated in his arrest and banishment from the lines. A historian of that era (Jones) denounced the proceedings as fraudulent and intended for no other purpose than to deceive the British authorities as to Judge Smith's real character, which, he declared, was that of a spy for the rebels. It was further charged that he had helped the New York Legislature to frame the State Constitution. Compelled to take a stand, Judge Smith fully identified himself with the Royalists and his abilities were recognized by his appointment as the British Chief Justice.

How the passions of the war disrupted families was apparently exemplified in this case: Joshua Hett Smith, with Dr. Outwater and Colonel Sherwood, was elected to the Third Provincial Congress (May 14 till June 30, 1776), and also to the Fourth Congress (July 9, 1776, till May 13, 1777); all three opposed the measure of independence that had been adopted by Congress, and then acquiesced to the will of the majority. In regard to another brother, Thomas, there is a letter on record, written by him to General Clinton, in April, 1777, dated from Haverstraw, in which after referring to the depredations of "the enemy" in the southern part of the county, he lays down the maxim that, "the State that exacts allegiance must give protection, and when the latter is withheld the former cannot be exacted." He adds: "As the country below the mountains is entirely defenceless, I think it prudent to remove my family to Ringwood, and I shall be much obliged to you for a permit to pass the lines in the Highlands with my children and effects. As the next southerly wind may bring up the enemy, the sooner I have it the better. My best respects to your brother and all friends."

During the few weeks that Arnold remained in command of the department, Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Arnold made frequent visits to each other, and the General was as frequently with Mr. Smith, "in search of those culinary supplies unattainable in the mountainous recesses where he resided." Mrs. Arnold, according to the Narrative left by Mr. Smith, "was qualified from a most amiable disposition and every engaging attraction to be at once the example and ornament of the politest cir-

cles." As for General Arnold, Mr. Smith felt happy in rendering him every aid in his power, "and cultivated his acquaintance from motives of security." Mrs. Arnold was by every account a very handsome lady. At this crisis she was but twenty years old. Mrs. Smith was not many years older, and had been raised in South Carolina. Joshua H. Smith was thirty-one; Benedict Arnold thirty-nine.

From his elevated residence Smith frequently observed flags of truce passing and repassing on the river, and sometimes he took the liberty of asking Arnold if the flags were for the exchange of prisoners. At first he received answers to the general effect that in a short time the business of the flags would be explained. Later, General Arnold was more communicative and said the flags had brought letters from Colonel Beverly Johnson, who was anxious to make terms for the recovery of his confiscated property, and, further, was authorized to propose some preliminary grounds for "an accommodation" between Great Britain and America. Colonel Lamb of the Artillery Corps at West Point being present and hearing these remarks, interjected that any proposition of that kind ought to be made to Congress. General Arnold replied that the communication must first be made through some channel, and there the subject was changed.*

On another occasion Arnold ridiculed the alleged inconsistency of an absolute monarch being the ally of a people contending for freedom. At the same time he mentioned that he had received another flag of truce by which Beverly Johnson had solicited an interview intended to be "more explanatory of the propositions that were to produce, if acceded to by Congress, a general peace, and happily terminate the expense of blood and treasure that was ruinous to both countries in the prosecution of a war without an object," as the conversation was reported by Mr. Smith.

In one of his confidential moments the commander of West Point complained of having been ill-used by Congress, in not sufficiently estimating his services. "Smith," he exclaimed, "here am I now, after having fought the battles of my country, with a ruined constitution and this limb useless to me. At the termination of this war where can I seek compensation for such damages as I have sustained?"

Asked by Mr. Smith if he had informed General Washington of

* Colonel Lamb corroborated Smith, in regard to this conversation, at the court-martial.

Robinson's application, Arnold answered that he had written to him for directions how to act, but that the Commander-in-chief had then gone to Connecticut or Rhode Island to visit Count Rochambeau, the commander of the French troops, lately arrived from France. At length Arnold announced to Smith that Robinson was coming to an interview, and invited him to conduct a flag of truce to bring the British representative ashore from the Vulture. "I was so deeply interested in the object of this meeting," writes Smith in his Narrative, "as represented by General Arnold, and the success of it was so congenial to my wishes that I made no hesitation to assure him of my cheerful concurrence; and in a day or two afterwards General Arnold came to my house at Haverstraw with the necessary passports for my mission to the Vulture."

On Tuesday, September 19, 1780, Major John Andre, Adjutant-General of Sir Henry Clinton's army, left New York and came by way of King's Bridge to Dobbs Ferry (east shore), and thence by boat to H. M. S. Vulture, then lying in Haverstraw Bay. He arrived on board at seven in the evening, and found Colonel Beverly Robinson awaiting him. The only explanation for Robinson's appearance on the scene is that he as well as Andre had been sent to this meeting, and that he stood precisely on the same footing. The evidence is strong that he was one of the agents who had been employed to seduce Arnold. He was dressed on this occasion in the flamboyant uniform that accorded with his rank in the British army. He had been the schoolmate of Washington, the owner of a fine estate on the Hudson, and aside from his politics was an officer and gentleman of ability and substance. There is ground for believing that it was on Colonel Robinson that Sir Henry Clinton depended to arrange with Arnold the military details for the investment of West Point. Major Andre was young and therefore inexperienced in many matters; Colonel Robinson was a grey-haired veteran of many campaigns. He had fought at Fort Montgomery and knew every strategical path and position in the Highlands. Had the conspiracy succeeded, Robinson would probably have been the successor of Arnold as commandant at the fortress. At the last moment he played safety and refused to cross the line of danger.

The understanding on his part evidently was that Arnold would come out to the Vulture. In the middle of the night of the 21st, when he sat waiting, Joshua H. Smith came aboard and handed him a letter

from Arnold. The two were old acquaintances. The letter was written for Smith's protection rather than for Robinson's information: "This will be delivered to you by Mr. Smith," it said, "who will conduct you to a place of safety. Neither Mr. Smith nor any other person shall be made acquainted with your proposals. If they are of such a nature that I can officially take notice of them, I shall do it with pleasure." The cunning writer here introduced a word for his own benefit: "I take it for granted that Colonel Robinson will not propose anything that is not for the welfare of the United States as well as himself."

The Colonel shied. He introduced Smith to Captain Sutherland, who lay in his bunk, ordered some refreshments and then went into another room. He was gone twenty minutes and Smith spent the time in conversation with the Captain. Robinson was discussing the situation with Andre. It may be imagined that they were annoyed by the twist Arnold had given to the affair. The cautious elder decided that he should not venture; Andre determined to go in his place. Sir Henry Clinton's last counsel had been, not to enter the American lines, not to remove his uniform, not to accept any writings. Andre expected to return in Smith's boat. It was strangely thoughtless that a ship's cutter was not ordered to take him, seeing that he was resolved on a personal interview. Smith asked for the help of two sailors, but it was not granted, notwithstanding that the Vulture had been sent to favor the interview.

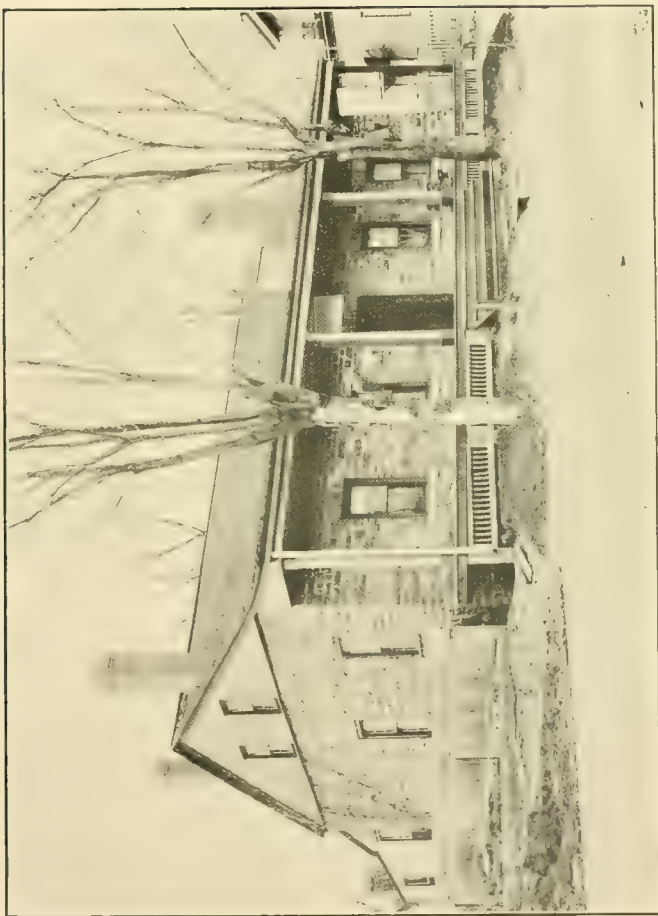
When Robinson returned to the cabin he brought Andre, fully ready for the boat ride, and introduced him to Smith as "Mr. Anderson," a name that the young adjutant-general as the amanuensis of his chief, had signed to his epistles to Arnold. Robinson pleaded indisposition, and announced that Anderson would go in his place. Entering with Smith into the small boat that waited, with two of the lawyer's tenants as oarsmen, Andre was rowed ashore. Arnold was waiting in a clump of firs near the water's edge at the foot of Long Cove. The historic spot is full two miles below Haverstraw village, then containing but a few scattered dwellings. It is down near where the mountains rise precipitously from the water. Far from the habitation of man, secluded and dismal, it was a fitting receptacle for the base secrets of a dark night.

On landing, Smith sought out Arnold, who, on being told that Robinson had not come, though sending a delegate, exhibited agitation and

expressed chagrin and disappointment. Smith himself did not consider Andre qualified for business of such moment. Upon Arnold consenting to receive the young man, Smith conducted "Anderson" to his "Gustavus." The scene has been well designated as "the crisis of the Revolution."

Joshua H. Smith had expected to participate in the "international negotiations," but was mortified by a request from Arnold to remain with the watermen on the strand. Arnold was more merciful than discourteous. Many questions that occur to the reader of the story can never be answered. One relates to the refusal of the oarsmen to take Andre back to the ship, after they had waited some hours with the intention of discharging that duty. Did anything that Smith said while smarting under the rebuff influence them to that determination? Certain it is that he refused to return with Major Andre to the *Vulture*, and the boatmen on being appealed to by Arnold, declared that they did not have strength enough left to accomplish it, because of the distance and the tide being against them. Again, it was urged as a reason for not returning to the ship that daylight was near and daylight meant discovery. The force of the second reason lay in the fact that Arnold had said when engaging the watermen that the business was of a nature not to be generally known. If Smith had not countenanced the measure, assuring them that it was for the good of the country, the Colquhouns would not have come, for they had not readily perceived why an honorable flag of truce needed concealment. In later years Smith put this question to the world to answer: "If the purpose of the interview had been accomplished, why should not General Arnold have given me a flag to carry this gentleman on board the *Vulture*?"

Dismissing intricate points that were long under discussion here and abroad, the story follows Arnold and Andre in their ride of more than four miles to Treason Hill. Arnold had come on horseback, accompanied by one of Smith's servants on another horse. The English adjutant-general rode on the horse the servant had brought. Smith returned up the river in the boat, landing at Crom's Island. The two officers had not proceeded far on the highway when they were challenged. "Who goes there?" If Andre had forgotten his commander's



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warning, he must have recalled it with startling clearness as he passed through the American lines with one whom he knew to be a traitor to his country.

Andre wore his regular uniform, but its bright colors were hidden under a long blue coat. He had been assured of perfect safety at Smith's house and a safe conduct back to the Vulture the following night. They followed the road through the village, plotting the ruin of the republican cause. The plan they were perfecting comprehended an assault in large force by the British and a weak resistance by the garrison. The strength of West Point was represented by five forts and nine redoubts and a number of batteries, mounting a total of one hundred guns, with three thousand available troops. Both sides of the river were fortified, and navigation obstructed by a chain. Arnold agreed to send the principal troops to distant points under the pretence of defending approaches. The forts would then be without men enough to hold them.

The conspirators arrived at the house long before Smith. Mrs. Smith had gone with the children to Fishkill and nobody was home but the servants. As the boat bearing the owner was entering the creeks, the boom of a heavy gun came across the water. Colonel Livingston of Verplanck's Point, irritated by the boldness of the Vulture, had determined to drive her away.

With horses he had drawn a field piece from the fort to the head of Croton Point and opened fire. The cannonade continued while daylight was breaking, and Andre with dismay saw the ship pass down the river. Captain Sutherland, however, did not desert him. After a few hours he brought the Vulture back to near her former anchorage.

When the master of the house returned he conducted the officers to the southeast room on the second floor, and served them with breakfast. Then, being ill and tired, he went to bed, leaving "Anderson" and Arnold alone for the greater part of the day. Smith affirmed afterward that he did not know who "Anderson" was. He took him for an agent of Colonel Robinson and otherwise a person of no particular importance, and of whose history he knew nothing, except that, as Arnold had remarked sarcastically, he had picked up a gaudy uniform somewhere. The "Treason House" needs no description here. It is in the American catalogue of famous places near the top. It was a house that com-

manded respect in the Revolution for its interior charm, as well as its dignified mein and distinguished position. Many notable persons had sat at its hospitable board. The reputation of Joshua H. Smith has been clouded ever since his connection with Benedict Arnold, but he was a person of no mean parts, who before his association with the traitor had rendered valuable service to his country. He was one of the thirteen riflemen who repulsed the landing party from the British fleet in July, '76, and on different occasions loaned local republican agents large sums of money with which to obtain supplies for troops. General Knox and General Howe testified in his favor at the trial.

Toward evening Arnold went to Smith's room and proposed that he should convey "Mr. Anderson" back to the Vulture, but Smith, pleading illness—"a fit of the ague"—said he was unable to gratify him. The General then suggested that Smith should accompany their guest part of the way to New York by land when the ague had passed over, and to this Smith made no objection, saying it would be in his way to visit his family at Fishkill and bring them home. It is apparent that he had a reason best known to himself for not escorting Andre back to his ship.

Returning again to Smith's room, Arnold requested the loan of a coat and hat for "Anderson's" use, saying that it would not be safe for him to travel in a British uniform. The other part of the dress would not require change. Fitted with a hat and coat belonging to his host, Andre went a little way with the departing General.

"What cares Congress for your services, your wounds and your losses?" he asked. "Your enemies in Congress do not thank you. I have even been told that in your fight with Burgoyne, when you so crippled him as to compel him to surrender, you fought as a volunteer and without a command, and that while you were leading the troops, Gates was in his tent, not even going on the field at all; yet he received Burgoyne's sword and all the honors of the victory, while you were tried by court-martial and disgraced."

"Yes," replied Arnold; "all this and more is true; and this in part has driven me to my present conduct. Independence must be postponed. Half a century hence it will come without war."

"Yes, General Arnold," said Andre, "we will restore peace and reconciliation, and for you there shall be honor, appreciation and an English peerage, in place of ingratitude and a public reprimand."

"Peace and reconciliation will be better than blood and suffering. But I hate to deceive Washington. They have driven me to it," added the traitor. "We must not fail. Hasten back, Andre, bring up your troops and West Point is yours."*

Andre was disconsolate when Arnold left. He was in danger. He had violated the three commands of his chief: He had entered the American lines, he had put off his uniform and had accepted writings from Arnold. Smith tried to amuse him by showing him the prospect from the southeast room. Upon some remark being made about the Vulture, the young Englishman cast at her an anxious look and, sighing, said: "I wish I was on board." "You will be at New York before she will," remarked Smith consolingly. "But I think the General might have ordered a flag of truce from Stony Point for you."

Andre winced at this and became reserved. He expressed his desire to leave as soon as possible. Several persons came to the house and he kept out of sight. Andre had left passports for both men, either to the Vulture or to White Plains. Smith would not go out to the frigate again, Andre dared not venture alone. In the twilight they set out on horseback, conversing as they approached Stony Point about the number of times the post had changed hands. On the way they fell in with some military officers, and had a drink with them at the ferry, the spy all the while being in an agony of mind. Darkness closed around them as they passed over the river.

* * * * *

It is six days later, the morning of the 28th of September. Two barges well manned are approaching King's Ferry. Waiting at the landing is a detachment of dragoons. In the leading boat is Major Andre, a prisoner, and closely guarded; in the other is Joshua Hett Smith, also a prisoner. They are being taken to Tappan for trial by court-martial, one as a spy, the other as a traitor to his country. They had played a daring game and lost in the last turn. After having been escorted by Smith through the American lines, Andre was galloping with a light heart over the neutral ground, expecting presently to be safe within the British lines, when he was stopped, at Tarrytown, by a band of American irregulars. Had he at once shown his passport from General Arnold, he would have been allowed to proceed. But, deceived by a red coat which

* I. N. Arnold's "Life of Benedict Arnold."

one of the men was wearing, no doubt for purposes of deception, he revealed his identity as a British officer, and was thereupon searched and exposed as a spy. In his boots were found the papers that Arnold had prevailed on him to carry to Sir Henry Clinton. The documents were, (1) an estimate of the forces at West Point and its dependencies, (2) a description of the works at the main post, (3) a detailed report of the ordnance equipment, and (4) the orders for the disposition of the troops in case of alarm. Andre would probably have been released had not these papers been found on him, and Sir Henry Clinton could easily have dispensed with the information they contained. Joshua Hett Smith had been arrested in bed at Fishkill, and conducted the next day into the presence of Washington at Beverly House. Two evenings previously they had supped together. Now accused of treason, he was remanded to West Point for temporary confinement, and thither Andre was also taken. Fort Putnam was the prison of the Englishman, a hut sufficed for the other. Arnold had escaped to the Vulture, leaving his wife in a swoon at Beverly House, and was now safe in New York. The country was aflame with indignation.

The dragoons closed around the prisoners as they stepped ashore, and the march at once began. Andre rode in front, Smith at the rear of the cavalcade. Permission was granted for the latter to stop at his residence, and he was greatly distressed at the havoc that had been wrought there. Not only had his private papers been abstracted, but securities valued at \$30,000 had been stolen. The Government afterwards reimbursed him—at least in part. The journey was resumed, and ten miles farther on all dismounted at John Coe's tavern for dinner. At dusk they arrived at Tappan, the headquarters of General Greene, who was in command of the left wing of the main Continental army. The escort halted in front of the church, and a crowd of citizens and soldiers hurled execrations at the prisoners. To the populace their former Congressman was well known, and for him the ordeal must have been a painful one. Andre was taken to a room in Mabie's tavern for confinement, Smith to the old church. Judge Heron, who resided in the village, furnished his unfortunate professional friend with a blanket to lie on. Before the door of the sanctuary guards were posted, and inside two sentries kept watch. The room in which Andre was confined was eighteen feet six and one-half inches in length, eleven feet seven and one-

half inches in width, seven feet five inches high. It was lighted by one window, which commanded a western view. Two officers were detailed to stay in the room with him, and sentries surrounded the house.

Washington followed the prisoners to Tappan, arriving the same day, and selecting the residence of John DeWint for his headquarters. This building has survived until the present, but has been altered by a front of modern construction. Two courts of inquiry were constituted, one for the trial of Andre, the other to consider the case of Smith. Ten charges were drawn up against the former Congressman, whose acquaintance with the methods of legal procedure now proved to be of the greatest service to him. Perceiving that the charges were framed so that the proof of one would necessarily involve by inference the others, he requested that all be consolidated into one general accusation. The request was granted, and when he appeared before the court for trial, he was required to answer to but one charge, that he had aided and assisted Benedict Arnold, in combination with the enemy, for the purpose of taking, seizing and killing the garrison at West Point and its dependencies.

The defendant first objected to trial by a military tribunal, he being a private citizen. He claimed the right of trial by jury, in a civil court, as guaranteed by the Constitution. The objection was over-ruled and the taking of testimony begun. Among the witnesses examined was the Marquis de la Fayette, who, though he had been a great deal at Smith's house, as many other general officers had been, now exhibited some animosity toward the defendant. Also, General Knox, Colonel Alexander Hamilton, Colonel Harrison, Colonel Hay and Colonel Livingston; Paulding, Van Wert and Williams, the militiamen who captured Andre; and the Colquhoun brothers, who rowed the defendant out to the Vulture. The defendant himself interrogated the witnesses with skilful thoroughness. With the aid of the two boatmen he seemed to establish that he had gone out to the vessel under a flag of truce from General Arnold, and, as he himself affirmed, innocently. He said he understood from Arnold that "Anderson" was a young merchant who from folly or pride had borrowed a military coat; that he could not understand why Arnold had not returned Andre to the Vulture under a military escort. It was developed that the original interview was to have been held at Dobbs Ferry (west side), and the Vulture had been

stationed there for that purpose before coming up to Haverstraw Bay; that Arnold had himself tried to get out to the ship secretly, and on two occasions was fired upon by the Vulture.

The trial of Smith was not concluded at Tappan. The day after Andre's execution, the army broke camp and marched to Pyramus, and then to Totowta Bridge, near the falls of Passaic. Here the trial was resumed, and Colonel Lamb, Jonathan Lawrence, General Howe, Captain Hutchins, Captain Gardner, Commodore Bowen and others were examined as witnesses. The proceedings were in the open air, a great concourse of soldiers and civilians attending. The trial was protracted for four weeks. On the 10th of November the prisoner was put on a horse and conducted back to Haverstraw, where he was permitted to spend the night with his family at his brother's house. The next morning he was taken in a boat from King's Ferry to West Point. The court martial had acquitted him and he was being held to await the action of the grand jury on a charge preferred by the county commissioners of conspiracies.

On November 18 the prisoner was led from West Point, under a guard of fifty horsemen, to Smith's Clove, which was named after his family, from the fact that they had possessed the greater part of the land it contained. He was permitted to spend the night at the family homestead, where one of his brothers then lived, and the next morning was led to Goshen and put in the jail. The first grand jury would not indict, saying that once was enough to put a man on trial for his life. Being fearful of what the next one might do, and considering that he had suffered enough, Smith took advantage of an opportunity to walk out of the Sheriff's office one day in May of the following year (1781). He hid first in a graveyard near by, then in the dwelling of a friend in the village, and finally reached New York. He retired to England with the British troops in 1783, leaving his wife in New York, where she died a few weeks after he sailed. His calamities were numerous and hard to bear. The death of his wife "prostrated all the barriers philosophy had raised," he wrote, and melancholy enveloped his mind. He was slowly recovering from this depression when, unexpectedly, he was visited by Arnold. The interview was brief and not a pleasant one for the former commander at West Point. Eighteen years passed and the exile determined to gratify a longing to live again in his old home on

the banks of the Hudson. It was in 1801 that he came back to Haverstraw and opened a school in his mansion on the hill. But men and affairs had changed; they were not as he had hoped; the old home was not the same. After a time he retraced his steps to England, and there, in 1808, he published his book, entitled "An Authentic Narrative of the Causes Which Led to the Death of Major Andre." It is a rare volume. One lays it down after reading with conflicting emotions. Some years after the publication, Mr. Smith returned to New York city, and there he died, October 10, 1818, at the age of 59.

The case of Andre was different, as was his fate. His trial began on the 29th of September, before a board of officers composed of Major-Generals Greene, Sterling, St. Clair, Lafayette, Howe and Steuben, and Brigadier-Generals Parsons, James Clinton, Knox, Glover, Paterson, Hand, Huntington and Stark, assisted by Judge Advocate Laurence. Andre made a truthful statement of the facts relating to himself, and his honorable bearing made a deep impression.

"When you landed did you consider yourself acting as a British officer, or as a private individual?" he was asked. "As a British officer," was the reply.

In reply to the question if he considered himself under the protection of a flag, he said it was impossible for him to so consider, and that if he had been, he certainly might have returned under it.

General Steuben remarked afterwards that it was not possible to save him. "He put us to no proof, but in an open, manly manner confessed everything but a premeditated design to deceive." The prisoner's own servant was allowed to visit him, and after the trial Andre put on the full uniform of a British officer.

Meanwhile Sir Henry Clinton was making every effort to save his young friend. In his first letter to Washington he contended that Andre was not a spy, but had come ashore at the invitation and under the protection of the American officer in command of the district, General Arnold, who had sent a flag of truce to receive him. He inclosed a letter from Arnold affirming that Andre was under a flag of truce. Washington replied saying that "Major Andre was employed in the execution of measures very foreign to the objects of flags of truce, and such as they were never meant to authorize or countenance in the most distant degree; and this gentleman confessed in the course of his exam-

ination that it was impossible for him to suppose that he came on shore under the sanction of a flag." The board of officers at this time had rendered their verdict, "that Andre ought to be considered as a spy, and agreeably to the laws and usages of nations, it was their opinion he ought to suffer death." Washington approved of the finding and ordered the execution to take place the next day. But later he granted a respite to receive a deputation from Sir Henry Clinton, consisting of General Robertson and Chief Justice Smith, brother of Joshua Hett Smith. General Greene was sent to Dobbs Ferry to meet Lieut.-General Robertson, but Justice Smith was not recognized in the matter. Nothing was produced at this interview—which occurred on the first of October—to change the opinion of General Washington, and a message was conveyed to the Greyhound, on board of which General Robertson waited, notifying him that the American determination had not been altered. The British representative, not ceasing his efforts, wrote personally to the American Commander-in-Chief, and in defending Major Andre, he said: "He took no step while ashore but at the direction of General Arnold. . . . Under these circumstances I could not, and hoped you would not consider Major Andre a spy. . . . The change of clothes and name was ordered by General Arnold, under whose direction Andre necessarily was while within his command."

Only one thing would have satisfied the Americans and saved Andre. It is well understood that the English captive would have been exchanged for Arnold. It was a secret guarded by the Americans but revealed by the British, that General Greene intimated this to General Robertson, at their personal interview. Greene did not speak thus without authority. The matter was presented in season to Sir Henry Clinton, who therefore had it in his power to decide whether Andre or Arnold should hang on the gallows at Tappan. There is strong evidence for saying that Andre knew that his fate was in Sir Henry's hands, but he honorably refrained from appealing to him to make the exchange. Instead, he wrote a touching farewell to his general, "with the object," as he said, of removing "any suspicion that I could imagine I was bound by your excellency's orders to expose myself to what has happened. The events of coming within an enemy's post and changing my dress, which led me to my present situation, were contrary to my own intention, as they were to your orders; and the circuitous route I

took was imposed (perhaps unavoidably) without alternative upon me. I am perfectly tranquil and prepared for my fate, to which an honest zeal in my King's service may have devoted me. In addressing myself to your excellency on this occasion, the force of all my obligations to you, and the attachment and gratitude I bear you, recurs to me. With all the warmth of my heart I give you thanks for your excellency's profuse kindness to me, and I send you the most earnest wishes for your welfare which a faithful, affectionate and respectful attendant can frame." But the word that would have saved the young man came not. "If Andre were my own brother I could not consent to it," was Sir Henry Clinton's remark.

So Washington signed the death warrant. By all the laws of war he was justified. Romilly, the great English jurist and law reformer, in later years wrote: "The arguments used by Clinton and Arnold, in their letters to Washington, to prove that Andre could not be considered a spy are: First, that he had with him when he was taken a protection of Arnold's, who was at that time acting under a commission of the Congress, and therefore competent to give protection. Certainly he was to all strangers to his negotiations with Clinton, but not to Andre, who knew him to be at that time a traitor to the Congress; nay, more, whose protection was granted for no other purpose than to promote and give effect to his treachery. In the second place, they say that when he was taken he was on neutral ground; but they do not deny that he had been within the American lines. . . . Certainly, no man in his situation could have acted with more determined courage, but his situation was by no means such as to admit of these exaggerated praises."

To the prisoner's plea for a soldier's death, Washington made no answer, perhaps not wishing to destroy his last hope. On the morning of the execution the village was filled with people. The blinds of Washington's headquarters were closed. Andre rose early and during the morning conversed pleasantly with his guard, but not referring to his approaching end, except when he saw the officers looking sad; then he would take up a glass and say, "Come, let us take a glass of wine. It only makes me feel the worse to see your feelings hurt." When his hour came, he laid aside his dressing gown, put on his uniform and packed his trunks. A column of soldiers drew up in front of the build-

ing, and he was brought out. Northward a little way, and then directly west, the procession marched for half a mile. The general officers, his judges, with their aides, were drawn up beside the road, and as the brave fellow passed them he raised his cocked hat in deferential salutation. He walked firmly on, keeping step to the drum beat, till he came in sight of a high gallows. Here he stopped with an exclamation of horror. He had asked the officers at his side as they had come along if they knew what was to be the manner of his death, and they had answered that they did not. He now said, "I have borne everything with fortitude, but this is too degrading. . . . Must I die in this manner? As respects myself, it is a matter of no consequence, but I have a mother and sisters who will be mortified." He walked on. "How hard is my fate." . . . "It will soon be over," he added, as he came to the place of death. Two forked trees, with the third laid across, formed the gallows. Beneath it was a two-horse baggage wagon bearing a coffin. Eye witness made these records:

"Andre waited a moment, betraying some emotion, putting one foot on a small stone and rolling it over, and choking up as if attempting to swallow. He bowed his head for a moment before attempting to get into the wagon by the tailboard. His first attempt failing, he said a few words to his servant, who was standing by, overcome with grief, and putting one hand on the wagon body, made a determined spring and succeeded. Standing on his coffin, he calmly looked around on the soldiers and a multitude of people, men, women and children. Colonel Seammel, as adjutant, read the order for execution, and General Glover said quietly, 'Major Andre, if you have anything to say, you can speak, for you have but a short time to live.' Standing with hands on hips, the prisoner bowed to him and in an unfaltering voice said, 'I have nothing more to say, gentlemen, than this, I pray you bear witness that I meet my fate like an honest man.'

Andre waved the black-face hangman aside, and took off his hat himself, and handed it, together with his watch, to his servant. His neckcloth he put in his pocket when he had taken it off. He also put the noose around his neck; his handkerchief he bound around his eyes, and stood waiting for death as the hangman mounted on a ladder, fastened the rope to the cross tree. "Bind his hands!" ordered General Glover. Andre pushed the handkerchief back from his eyes, drew a

piece of blue ribbon from his pocket, and handed it to the disguised executioner, and replaced the blindfold.

The graceful figure standing there, bound and helpless, on the brink of eternity, was a sight that touched all hearts. Colonel Scammel dropped the point of his sword as a signal, the horses were led forward, and the form of Major Andre swung off the coffin at the end of the rope. The stillness of death reigned as his spirit took flight. For nearly half an hour the body swung too and fro, then was cut down, and the uniform removed. As the earth fell upon the coffin in the grave under the gallows, the Greyhound, which had been waiting in the river for the young officer, raised her anchor and sailed away.

On August 10, 1821, the bones were disinterred and carried aboard an English man-of-war for transport to London, where in Westminster Abbey they now repose. One hundred years after the execution a monument was erected at Tappan, to mark the spot where died, one who, as Washington said, was more unfortunate than criminal.

References: "Life of Benedict Arnold," by I. N. Arnold. Abbatt's "Crisis of the Revolution." "An Authentic Narrative of the Causes Which Led to the Death of Major Andre," by Joshua H. Smith.

CHAPTER XII.

SOLDIERS OF THE REVOLUTION.

The Last Campaign—The French Army—Members of the Haverstraw Regiment of Militia—The Continentals—Members of Capt. Robert Johnston's Company—Of Captain Amos Hutchins' Company—Officers of the Orangetown Regiment.

THE year 1781 witnessed the last campaign of importance in the war. Washington had spent the winter and spring at New Windsor, his army in the Highlands and in a line of cantonments extending from the Ramapo valley to Morristown, N. J. The French had wintered at Newport. The time had come for striking a fatal blow. The allies would either lay siege to New York city or strike Cornwallis at Yorktown, Va. Their first decision was to try New York. On June 18th the French started from Rhode Island toward Westchester county, N. Y. Washington left his headquarters at New Windsor on the 26th, and with the American divisions crossed the Hudson. The junction with the French army was effected, the left of the French line being at White Plains, the American right on the Tappan Zee, at Dobbs Ferry. The American troops then numbered only four thousand five hundred; they had no uniforms and were poorly equipped, in this respect presenting a great contrast to the French army. For nearly two months the allies remained practically inactive in Westchester county, threatening Sir Henry Clinton's army on the south side of the Harlem. They were waiting for the French fleet without the aid of which they did not wish to attack. When it was known that De Grasse had entered the Chesapeake, Washington and Rochambeau suddenly changed their plans, resolving on a quick march to Virginia. The troops began to march on the 19th of August, at four in the morning. Part of the American army crossed to Sneden's landing; the rest followed the shore road to King's Ferry, and crossed there. The French took a circuitous route to Verplanck's Point, by way of Phillipsburgh, North Castle, Leguid's Tavern, Pensbridge, Crampond and Peekskill, where they arrived on the 22nd. Rochambeau, unwilling to pass so near West Point without seeing it, devoted the 23d to visiting that famous fortress in the company of Washington and several officers. The same day the French wagons and the legion of Lanzun crossed the river,

MAP SHOWING
THE LANDING PLACE of
MAJ. JOHN ANDRÉ.

RW TUNNEL

BRIDGE

BRICK HOUSE

ROAD TO SNEAKERS LANDING MADE ABOUT 1772

ROAD CLOSED ABOUT 1872

ROAD OPENED IN 1881

RAILROAD

ROAD TO HAVERSTRAW VILLAGE

STONE QUARRY

HOUSE

REMAINS OF ANDRE'S DOCK

LONG CLOVE

ANDRE'S DOCK

This map was drawn by Mr. Lavallette Wilson, A. M., C. E. of Haventraw and originally published in the *Harvard*.
It has been enlarged to the original size.
For its use I am indebted to Mr. S. Victor Constant of New York.
"The Firm" where Arnold and André met, is on a line a little North, or South, where the word "Ancient" is italic.

at King's Ferry, and halted at Haverstraw, near the residence of Joshua Hett Smith. Bourbounaes' brigade passed over on the 24th, and the rest on the 25th. Washington left a corps of 3,000 militiamen, under Heath, to defend the Highlands. The allied forces marched in three grand divisions, each one day's march apart, the second division spending one night at the quarters occupied by the first division the previous night. The American force, 3,000 men, constituted the first division. The first bivouac after leaving Haverstraw was at Sufferns, the next at Pompton.

Cornwallis surrendered on the 19th of October. Orange county's Continental troops participated in this campaign, under General James Clinton. The French spent the winter in camps at Yorktown and Hampton, Va. Washington sent the Virginia militia south, and also dispatched the Maryland and Pennsylvania troops under Lafayette to reinforce Greene's army. He himself came back towards the Hudson with the remainder of the American Continentals. This was practically the end of the war. The French army re-crossed the river at King's Ferry September 14 of the following year, and was welcomed on the west shore by the main Continental army. The French defiled between the American lines, which were now well equipped; their arms had come from France, and their clothing principally from the storehouses at Yorktown. While the French remained here, they were encamped in front of Crampond, with an advance guard on the Croton. The Americans were at the ferry, with their advance guard at the mouth of the Croton. The position was of great strategical importance; it defended the Highlands and at the same time threatened New York. When certain that there was to be no more fighting, the French left their encampments on the 12th of October, and from Boston in December they embarked for home. The main Continental army spent the winter at Newburgh.

During the course of the war the Continental Congress made three calls on the people of this State for troops for the Continental line, the first in 1775, the second early in 1776, the third in the summer of 1776. The returns on record, as is generally known, are incomplete, both of Continental and militia organizations. All returns made subsequent to the year 1781 were destroyed by fire at Washington in 1800. The two militia regiments raised in the section of county south of the mountains were Colonel A. Hawks Hay's, with headquarters at Haverstraw,

and Colonel Abraham Lent's, with headquarters at Tappan. From these two fundamental organizations were mainly drawn not only the Minute Men, but also the companies for the Continental line. Only the names of the officers of Colonel Lent's regiment have survived. In 1777 the remnants of this regiment were consolidated with the Haverstraw regiment. Southern Orange furnished in whole or part at least three companies for the Continental line:

(1.) Captain Robert Johnston's company, mustered August 4th, 1775; served under Colonel James Clinton in the campaign into Canada. (Names given below.)

(2.) Captain Amos Hutchins' company, organized in February, 1776, and attached to Ritzema's First Regiment in April, 1776.

(3.) Captain Amos Hutchins' second company, organized in November, 1776, for Colonel Dubois's Fifth Regiment. Served with distinction at the battle of Forts Montgomery and Clinton. (Names given below.)

ORANGE COUNTY MILITIA.--SECOND REGIMENT.

Colonel Ann Hawkes Hay
Lieut.-Col. Isaac Sherwood.
Lieut.-Col. Gilbert Cooper.
Major John Smith
Major John L. Smith
Adjutant James D. Clark

Adjutant William Ryder
Quartermaster Joseph Johnson
Quartermaster Garret Onderdonck
Surgeon John Ferrand

Capt. Garret Ackerson
Capt. Johannes Bell
Capt. Aurie Blauvelt,
Capt. Johannes Blauvelt
Capt. Joseph Crane,
Capt. John Gardner
Capt. John Hogenkamp
Capt. John M. Hogenkamp
Capt. William Kiers
Capt. Jacob Onderdonck
Capt. Reynard Quackenbos
Capt. William Sickles
Capt. Aury Smith
Capt. Henry Tenure
Capt. Andrew Thompson
Lieut. Richard Acker
Lieut. Cornelius Blauvelt
Lieut. Thomas Blauvelt
Lieut. Walter Cure
Lieut. Matthias Conklin
Lieut. Henry Esler
Lieut. Jacob Finke
Lieut. William Garham

Lieut. William Graham
Lieut. Daniel Onderdonck
Lieut. Andris Onderdunk
Lieut. Roger Osborn
Lieut. Jacob Polhemus
Lieut. James Rumsey
Lieut. Jacob Sickles
Lieut. John Sitcher
Lieut. Theunis Taulman
Lieut. Driek Van der Bilt
Lieut. Paul Van der Voort
Lieut. Resolvent T. Van Houton
Lieut. Walter Van Order
Lieut. John Waldron
Ensign Richard Ackerson
Ensign John Coe
Ensign William Conklin
Ensign John Myers
Ensign Garret Onderdonck
Ensign Roger Osborn
Ensign Albert Smith
Ensign Teunis Talman, Jr.

ENLISTED MEN.

Accarsen, Thomas	Accorsen, John	Acker, David
Acker, Derrick	Acker, Jacops	Ackerman, Eda
Ackerman, John	Ackerson, Abraham	Ackerson, David
Ackerson, Jacob	Allison, Issac	Allison, Jeremiah
Allison, John	Allison, Joseph	Allison, Joseph B.
Allison, Matthew	Allison, Peter	Allison, Samuel
Allison, Thomas	Allison, William	Ammerman, Aurt
Archer, Jacob	Arden, Jacob	Armstrong, Robert
Babcock, Job E.	Babcock, James	Babcock, Job
Baker, Thomas	Babcock, Thos.	Backman, John
Barwick, Robert	Barmore, Henry	Barns, Jacob V.
Beekman, John	Barmore, Henry	Bate, James
Bell, Wellem, Sr.,	Bell, Hendrick	Bell, Wellem
Berray, Isaac	Bell, William	Bensen, Johannes
Bird, Samuel	Bill, William	Birchel, Jeremiah
Blauvelt, John H.	Blavot, Hermones	Blasvuldt, Herramanus
Blauvelt, Cornelius	Blauvelt, Abraham D.	Blauvelt, Adam
Blauvelt, Daniel	Blauvelt, Cornelius I.	Blauvelt, Daniel A.
Blauvelt, Garret J.	Blauvelt, Garret	Blauvelt, Garret Isaac
Blauvelt, Hendreck	Blauvelt, Garret G.	Blauvelt, Harmanes
Blauvelt, Isaac H.	Blauvelt, Hendrick A.	Blauvelt, Isaac G.
Blauvelt, Jacobus J.	Blauvelt, Jacob	Blauvelt, Jacobus
Blauvelt, Johannes G.	Blauvelt, Johannes	Blauvelt, Johannes D.
Blauvelt, John G.	Blauvelt, Johannes J.	Blauvelt, John
Blauvelt, Joseph J.	Blauvelt, John J.	Blauvelt, Joseph
Blawvelt, Richard	Blauvelt, Peter	Blauvelt, Peter
Blauvelt, Nurie	Blawvelt, Thunis	Blawvelt, Frederick
Bogert, Gysbert	Bogart, Johames	Bogert, David
Boilson, John	Bogert, Jacob	Bogort, John
Boilson, Anthony	Boilson, John	Boilson, John
Brewer, Isaac	Bolson, Cornelius	Brewer, Aury
Briggs, Jasper	Bridggs, John	Briggs, Henry
Briggs, Matthius	Briggs, John	Briggs, Lawrence
Brouwer, Samuel	Broadwell, Henry	Brooks, John
Brower, Uldrick	Brower, Abraham	Brower, Isaac
Bulson, Cornelius	Bruce, Robert	Brush, Robert
Burgess, Archer	Burchell, Jeremiah	Burges, Michael
Butler, Isaac	Burgis, John	Burns, David
Came, Edward D.	Butler, Israel	Butler, Joseph
Cammel, Stephen	Cammel, Albert	Cammel, Luke
Campbell, Robert	Campbell, Adam	Campbell, Luck
Cankelen, William	Campbell, Stephen	Campbell, Wiam
Carloughs, Nicholas	Canniff, James	Cargile, Henry
Clark, James A.	Clark, Daniel A.	Clark, Jacobes D.
Coe, Benjamin	Clark, Joseph D.	Clark, Michael D.
Coe, Daniel S.	Coe, Daniel	Coe, Daniel, Jr.,
Coe, John D.	Coe, Halstead	Coe, Isaac
Coe, Matthew	Coe, John S.	Coe, Jonas
Coe, Samuel	Coe, Matthew, Jr.,	Coe, Matthew D.
Cohoun, Joseph	Coe, William	Cohoun, David
Cole, Abraham	Coin, Edward D.	Cokalect, Daniel
Coleman, John	Cole, Andries	Cole, Isaac
Conklin, Ezekiel	Collerd, Abraham	Collorot, Abraham

Concklin, John	Concklin, David	Concklin, Henry
Concklin, Stephen	Concklin, Nicholas N.	Concklin, Nicholas W.
Conckling, Gabriel	Conckling, Abraham	Conckling, Aron
Conckling, John	Conckling, Isaac	Conckling, Joseph H.
Conckling, Lewis	Conckling, John L.	Conckling, Michael
Conckling, Nicholas	Conckling, Matthies	Conckling, Stephen
Conckling, Thomas	Conckling, Nicholas W.	Conklin, Gabriel
Conklin, Isaac	Conklin, Aaron	Conklin, Joseph
Conklin, Joseph J.	Conklin, John	Conklin, Michael
Conklin, Stephen	Conklin, Lewis	Cooper, Albert
Cooper, Cornelius	Cooper, Abram	Cooper, Garret
Cooper, Gilbert	Cooper, Eda	Cooper, John
Cooper, Joseph	Cooper, Hendrick	Cooper, Wolvert
Cornelison, John	Cooper, Tunes	Cornwell, William
Corwine, Gilbert	Cornelison, Michael	Cot, John
Crane, John	Couter, John	Crom, William
Crouter, John	Cregier, Thomas	Crowler, John
Crum, Richard	Crow, Joshua	Crumb, Peter
Crumb, William	Crumb, John	Culson, Alexander
Cuper, Henry	Cuckleatt, Daniel	Curren, Gilbert
Davison, M.	Cure, Walter	Debaun, David
DeClark, Jacobus	Deal, Jacob	Degraw, John
Degraw, Luke	Degraw, Cornelius	Demarest, David
Demarest, Jacobus	Degraw, William	Demarest, Petrus
Demarest, James	Demarest, Johannes	Depue, Cornelius
Depue, John	DePew, Peter	Deronde, Hendrick
Deronde, Henry	Deronde, Abraham	Deronde, Henry I.
Deronde, Jacob	Deronde, Henry C.	Dekins, Thomas
Dimerest, Peter	Deronde, Tobias	Dunbar, Amos
Dutcher, Isaac	Doty, Adam, Jr.,	Dyckens, Richard
Dyckens, Thomas	Dutcher, Peter	Eckerson, Dirk
Edwards, James	Dyckman, Abraham	Pitergee, Michael
Emmens, James	Ekerson, Derick	Evermore, John
Felter, John	Emmit, Tunis	Fowler, Gilbert
Fowler, Lewis	Ferguson, John	Fredenburgh, Abram
Frederich, Abram	Fredenburgh, Peter	Frederich, Robert
Furman, Benjamin	Frederich, Henry	Furshie, John
Ganyon, Abraham	Furman, Raef	Garrison, Abraham
Garrison, Abraham, Jr.,	Gardner, James	Garrison, Peter
Gerow, Benjamin	Garrison, Joseph	Goetschius, John
Goetschius, Abraham	Goetschius, Abraham	Gornee, Isalah
Gornee, Benjamin	Gornee, Elias	Gornee, Stephen
Gornee, Stephen, Sr.,	Gornee, John	Goutchen, Joseph
Graass, Jeob	Gornee, Stephen, Jr.,	Green, Patrick
Gross, Jacob	Graham, John	Gurnee, Francis
Gurnee, Elias	Gross, Peter	Gurnee, John
Gurnee, John J.	Gurnee, Isalah	Gutches, Abm.
Gutches, Joseph	Gurnee, Stephen, Jr.,	Hadley, George
Hadley, Isaac	Hadley, Fredick	Halsted, Henry
Halsted, Jacob	Hadley, Stephen	Halsted, Timothy
Hannah, William	Halsted, John	Hansy, Abram
Harring, Abram	Hansua, Jacob	Hayston, Joseph
Hecklee, Robert	Hause, William	Hendrickson, Hendrick
Hendrickson, Jacobus	Heirs, Phelix	Herman, Joseph
Herring, Isaac	Hendrickson, John	Hogenkam, Gysbert

Hoagland, William	Hillaman, Nicholas	Holland, John
Holland, Thomas	Holdron, Andries	Holsted, Edmond
Hoogland, John	Holstead, Edward	Hopper, Paul
Horton, James	Hoppen, Renard	House, John
House, Richard	House, Cornelius	House, Renard, Jr.,
Houser, Henry	House, Renard, Sr.,	Huff, Gershom
Huffman, Harmanes	Howard, Richard	Hunt, Gilliad
Hunt, Joseph	Hunt, Gilbert	Hunt, Samuel
Hutchins, Amos	Hunt, Reuben	Hutton, John
Immons, James	Hutson, John	Jennyks, Hendrick
Jeffers, Edward	Iseman, John	Jinkings, Arie
John, Peter	Jersey, Peter	Johnson, John
Johnson, John, Jr.,	Johnson, Gisbert	Johnston, John
Jonsen, Benjamin	Johnson, Thomas	Jones, Isaac
Jones, Jacob	Jones, Edward	Jones, Jonas
Jones, Joseph	Jones, John	Jonson, Shepherd
Juruill, Francis	Jones, William	Kelly, Carpenter
Kelly, Daniel	Kahoon, Samuel	Kelly, Thomas
Kerhoon, Samuel	Kelly, Dennis	Kiesler, A.
Kiesler, A.	Kieslar, Philip	King, Jacob
King, Walter	King, Arie	Knap, Benjamin
Knap, James	Kislor, Hermanus	Knap, Jeremiah
Knap, Jonas,	Knap, Jared	Knap, Samuel
Knapp, Abel	Knap, Lebbeus	Kruffen, Jacob
Kuypert, Theunis	Knapp, Silas	Krum, Peter
Lamb, Martin	Lamb, Alexander	Lamb, Jacob
Lawrence, David	Lamb, Pomp	Lane, Henry
Lefay, Thomas	Lawrence, George	Leaycraft, William
Lewis, James	Lent, Jacob	Lent, John
Lowry, Tobias	Linkleten, James	Linklettor, James
Mabe, John	Lynch, James	Lyons, Samuel
Mabie, Abraham	Mabee, Jeremiah	Mabee, John Peter
Mabie, Peter	Mabie, Casparus	Mabie, Cornelius
McCarter, Peter	Mabie, Peter Charles	Mabie, Yoast
Martine, John	Magee, John	Man, George
Maybie, Jesper	Marvin, Elihu	Matthews, Samuel
Mefoy, James	Mead, Joel	Meeks, Joseph
Meyer, Jacob	Megee, John	Mekes, Joseph
Morgan, David	Mier, Cornelius	Montanye, John
Mott, Jacob	Morris, David	Mott, Charles
Mountain, Andrew	Mott, Mordica	Mott, Salvemos
Meyer, Garret	Meyer, Abraham	Meyer, Danfel
Meyers, John	Meyer, Jeams	Meyers, Andrew
Oblenis, Peter	Nostrand, Thomas	Oblenis, Henry
Odle, Nathaniel	O'Brien, John	Ockerman, David
Onderdonck, Adriance	Onderdonck, Abraham	Onderdonck, Adrawon
Onderdonck, Aron	Onderdonck, Albert	Onderdonck, Andris
Onderdonck, Garrit	Onderdonck, Isaac	Onderdonck, James
Onderdonck, John	Onderdonck, Thomas	Onderdonck, Henry
Osborn, William	Osborn, Benjamin	Osborn, John
Parker, Jacob	Palmer, Jonathan	Parker, Isaac
Parsel, William	Parker, John	Parker, Peter
Paul, James	Parsell, Johannes	Parsell, John
Perril, Johannns	Paulding, Cornelius	Paulding, Garret
Persell, Jacob	Perry, Jacobus	Perry, Urin

- Phillips, Eli
 Polasker, Anthony
 Polhemus, Jolon
 Post, Isaac
 Poulhamus, Handriek
 Quockenbos, Reynard
 Quackinbush, James
 Ramsen, Garret
 Reader, Josiah
 Remsen, John
 Rider, Conrad
 Robertson, Jesse
 Root, William
 Rosevelt, Joseph
 Ryker, Hendrick
 Salsar, Mical
 Sauven, Garriis
 Seaman, Powlis
 Secaur, Benjamin
 Secaur, Samuel
 Secor, Daniel
 Secor, Jacob
 Secor, Jonas
 Servant, Adrian
 Servron, Abraham
 Shay, Patrick
 Shourt, Lewi
 Sickels, John
 Smit, Abram
 Smith, Adam
 Smith, David
 Smith, Garret
 Smith, John
 Smith, Peter
 Smith, Samuel
 Snyder, Abraham
 Snyder, Peter
 Springsteen, David
 Springsteen, John
 Stagg, John
 Stephenson, Stephen
 Stephens, Stephen
 Stevens, Albert
 Steward, James
 Straut, Jacob
 Talenian, Gerriit
 Tallman, Harmanas
 Tallman, William
 Tarneur, Woodhul
 Taylor, Abner
 Taylor, Jonathan
 Taylor, William
 Tenure, John
 Tenyck, John
 Thew, John ,
- Persell, Paul
 Phillips, Gilbert
 Polhamus, Abraham
 Post, Abraham
 Post, Isaac Abraham
 Pouhamus, Theodorus
 Quackenbos, Rynar
 Remsen, Abram
 Ramson, George
 Remsen, Aurt
 Reynolds, Abraham
 Rider, Josiah
 Robino, Joseph
 Rose, Jacob
 Runnelds, Benjamin
 Ryker, James
 Salyer, Edward
 Seaman, Caleb
 Seamons, John
 Secaur, Jacob
 Secor, Andrew
 Secor, Isaac
 Secor, James
 Secor, Samuel
 Servant, Henry
 Sharp, James
 Sherwood, David
 Shourt, Hendrick
 Simmons, Paul
 Smith, Abert
 Smith, Cornelius
 Smith, Edward
 Smith, Isaac
 Smith, John C.
 Smith, Reynard
 Smith, Stephen
 Snyder, Hendrick
 Sprieg, Gideon
 Springsteen, Isaac
 Springsteen, Samuel
 Stagg, Paul
 Stephens, Peter
 Stephens, Stephen A.
 Stevens, Resolvent
 Storm, Abraham
 Stringham, William
 Tallman, Abraham
 Tallman, John
 Talman, Theunis H.
 Tarnur, James
 Taylor, Jeams
 Taylor, Joshua
 Teneur, Johannes
 Tenure, Odle
 Thew, Garret
- Phillips, Daniel
 Pierson, James
 Polhemus, Aurt
 Post, Daniel
 Post, John
 Quockenboos, Riner
 Quackenboss, Abram
 Ramsen, Aurt
 Read, Peter
 Remsen, Johannes
 Reynolds, Benjamin
 Riker, Henry
 Rodgers, Justus
 Rose, John
 Ryker, Abraham
 Ryker, Matthew
 Salyer, William
 Seaman, Joseph
 Seamons, Paul
 Secaur, James
 Secor, Benjamin
 Secor, Isaac I.
 Secor, James E.
 Servant, Abraham
 Servant, Phillip
 Shaw, Patrick
 Shourt, Adolph
 Shurt, Henry
 Smeth, Garret
 Smith, Abraham
 Smith, Cornelius C.
 Smith, Frederick
 Smith, James
 Smith, Nathaniel
 Smith, Reyniere
 Snedeker, Tunis
 Snyder, Hermanes
 Springsteel, Isaac
 Springsteen, Johannes
 Springsteen, Staughts
 Stamford, David
 Stephens, Rulif
 Stephens, William
 Stevens, Stephanes
 Stott, William
 Talema, Theunis
 Tallman, Doweiy
 Tallman, Peter
 Talman, Thomas
 Taulman, Harmh
 Taylor, John
 Taylor, Moses
 Teneyke, Hendrick
 Tenyck, Jacob
 Thew, Gilbert

Thompson, William	Thiell, Jacob	Thompson, ———
Tiebout, Henry	Tice, John	Tiebout, George
Tinkee, Coonro	Tilt, William	Tinkeer, Coonrod
Tirneir, Michael	Tinkee, John	Tinke, Jacob
Tonyke, Jacob, Jr.,	Timmer, Henry	Tonure, Lowrance
Tourneud, James	Torneur, James	Toun, John
Trumper, Theunis	Tournneur, James	Tremper, James
Tutler, Daniel	Tunre, Woodhull	Turnere, Lawrence
Valentine, Peter	Underdonek, Roulof	Vaber, John
Van Buskirk, George	Van Antwerp, Daniel	Van Antwerp, John
Van Cleft, Garret	Van Cleeck, Jacobus	Van Cler, Garret
Van DeBelt, Derick	Vandarbeek, David	Van Derbelt, Cornelius
Vanderbelt, John	Vanderbelt, Dowah	Vanderbelt, James
Van Dervoort, John Sr.,	Vander Voort, Barent	Van Dervoort, Garret
Van Der Voort, Paul	Van Dervoort, John	Van Dervoort, Jonas
Van Dyke, John	Vandervoort, Peter	Van Dolson, Jacobis
Van Houten, Abraham	Van Hootan, Derick	Van Houghen, John
Van Houten, Klaas	Van Houten, Charles	Van Houten, John
Van Houten, Thunis	Van Houten, Peter	Van Houten, Samuel
Vanorden, Andris	Van Orden, Hendrick	Van Ordee, Hendrick
Van Order, Andreis	Vanorden, Jacobus	Van Orden, John
Van Sickle, Daniel	Van Order, Peter	Van Order, Hendrick
Venalo, Cornelius	Vardassen, Johannis	Velte, William
Vervalen, James	Venhousen, John	Vervalen, Cornelius
Vouek, Peter	Vervalin, James	Verveelen, Jacobus
Waldroni, Jacob	Voorhis, Stephen	Wagoner, Tobias
Waldrom, John	Waldurn, James	Waldrom, Janis
Walker, John	Waldron, Edward	Waldron, John
Wanamaker, Peter	Wallace, John	Wanamaker, Adolph
Weggin, Tobias	Wandle, Jacob	Warrin, Theodores
Westervelt, Abraham	Welch, Richard	Wessels, Richard
Westervelt, Peter	Westervelt, Casparus	Westervelt, Daniel
Williams, Gilbert	Whitten, Joseph	Wickham, Warren
Williamson, Nicholas	Williams, Josiah	Williamson, Jeremiah
Willson, Andrew	Willon, Andrew	Willsey, James
Wilson, Uriah	Willson, James	Wilson, Albert
Wood, Henry	Woldrom, Jacob	Wood, Ebenezer
Wood, Samuel	Wood, Jacob	Wood, Joseph
Young, Frederick	Woolsey, Jacob	Youmans, Samuel
Zodenpah, John	Zuniker, Lodourik	

CONTINENTALS--1775.

A MUSTER ROLL OF THE MEN RAISED AND PASSED MUSTER IN THE COUNTY OF ORANGE FOR CAPTAIN JOHNSTON'S COMPANY, 4TH AUGUST, 1775. RAISED AT ORANGETOWN. ROBERT JOHNSTON, CAPTAIN. LIEUTENANTS, JOHN MAURITIUS, ——— GOETSCHUIS, PHILIP DUBOIS BEVIER.

Martin, William	Ackerson, John	Miller, Zephaniah
McQueen, Philip	Lefiler, John	Babcock, David
Carmichael, Peter	Osborn, John	Bradley, Corneaus
Clark, John	Monnell, Isaac	Ferguson, Thomas
Stephens, Ruttes	Cable, Andrew	Ackerman, Edie
Houser, Andrew	Blauvelt, Abraham	Ward, Daniel

Jackas, Thomas
 Binks, Stephen
 VanKempen, Abram
 Cooper, John
 Garritsor, Samuel
 Coe, John D. Sr.
 Cooper, John C.
 Cooper, Abram
 Mott, Mordica
 Cone, Edward
 Fowler, Jabez
 Prayer, Robert
 Conelie, John
 Terueur, James
 Hallstead, Jacob
 Town, Timothy
 Burges, Peter
 Stuert, John

Yeomans, William
 Ackerson, Thomas
 Bogard, John
 Conklin, Samuel
 Parker, Daniel
 Cole, Garret
 Odle, Tompkins
 Mott, Jacob
 McVey, John
 Burges, James
 Van Zail, Egbert
 Wood, Joseph
 Secaur, Isaac
 Haycock, John
 Milchier, Pawles
 Condum, David
 Kisler, Harmanus
 Jeffer, John

Ackerson, Benjamin
 Kelly, Thomas
 Secaur, James
 Ellison, John
 Conklin, Stephen
 Relan, Peter
 Morgan, David
 Ellison, Peter
 Huffman, David
 Warren, Edward
 Smith, Cornelius Jr.,
 Ellison, John
 Trump, Simon
 Nicks, Cornelius
 Springsteel, John
 Dawson, Richard
 Ellison, Thomas
 Alver, Thomas

CONTINENTALS--1776.

MUSTER ROLL OF THE SECOND COMPANY OF THE FIFTH REGIMENT,
 NEW YORK CONTINENTAL LINE. AMOS HUTCHINS, OF HAVERSTRAW,
 CAPTAIN. LEWIS DUBOIS, COLONEL.

Hutchins, Amos, Captain, Nov. 21, '76; resigned May 9, '78.

Jackson, Patten First Lieut., Nov. 21, '76; missing Oct. 6, '77; exchanged
 Feb., '81.

Furman, John, Little Esopus, Second Lieut., Nov. 21, '76; captured at Fort
 Montgomery; exchanged, '81; mustered to Jan., '82.

Stocker, Seth, Orderly Sergeant, Newburgh, Feb. 12, '77, to Jan., '82.

Pride, James, Sergeant, Marlborough, Aug. 12, '76; three years.

Gain, Feb. 1, '77; missing Oct. 6, '77; joined.

Robinson, James, Sergeant, Aug. 6, '77; three years.

Concklin, Samuel, Corporal, Haverstraw, Feb. 18, '77; taken at Fort Mont-
 gomery; died in prison.

Allison, John, Corporal, to Jan., '81.

Factor, John Drummer, to Jan., '82.

Allen, Jasper, fife, Feb. 8, '77; died April 14, '80.

Clark, Dec. 19, '76; died Mar. 15, '77.

Clark, Dec. 19, '76; died Mar. 15, '77.

Rhodes, Joseph, Dec. 25, '76, to Jan., '82.

Robinson, Benjamin, Dec. 25, '76, to Aug., '77.

Rose, John, Clarkstown; enlisted early in '77 for nine months; re-enlisted
 in Col. Graham's for nine months; re-enlisted in Col. Bayley's Horse for one
 year, then in Captain Lawrence's and Col. J. Harper's; taken prisoner at
 Lake Onondaga Oct. 18, '80; exchanged, May, '83.

Cooper, John, Haverstraw, Jan. 1, '77; transferred to Capt. Graham's Sec-
 ond N. Y.; died of wounds at Albany, Feb. 9, '78.

Langdon, Samuel, Jan. 1, '77, to Nov., '79.

Lattimer, Benjamin, Jan. 1, '77; missing Oct. 6, '77; joined, served to
 Nov., '79.

Lattimer, Roger, Jan. 1, '77, to Jan., '80.

Travis, Scot, Jan. 10, '77; missing Oct. 6, '77; joined to Jan., '82.

Brush, Eliakins, Jan. 8, '77; missing, Oct. 6, '77.

Richards, Philip, June 14, '77, to April 10, '83.

- Titus, James, Jan. 16, '77, to Nov., '79.
 Rhodes, Cornelius, Feb. 1, '77; missing Oct. 6, '77
 Sears, Francis, Haverstraw, Feb., '77; taken prisoner at Fort Montgomery; in to Jan., '82.
 Bunker, William, Feb., '77; missing Oct. 6, '77.
 Ackerson, Cornelius, Feb. 11, '77; three years, Corporal; missing Oct. 6, rejoined, mustered Sergeant, Nov., '79; Lieutenant, to Jan., '80.
 Allison, John, Corporal, Feb. 12, '77, to Jan., '82.
 Bunker, Lawrence, Feb. 13, '77, to Nov., '79.
 Garrison, Samuel, Sr., Haverstraw, Feb. 12, '77; taken prisoner at Fort Montgomery; died in New York prison.
 Cooper, Abram, Feb. 28, '77, to April 19, '78.
 Marks, George, Haverstraw, Mar. 1, '77; discharged at Haverstraw May 1, '80.
 Outhouse, Israel, April 1, '77; missing Oct. 6, '77.
 Crum, Hermanius, Haverstraw, April 8, '77; taken prisoner at Fort Montgomery; died in prison.
 Crum, Jacob, April 14, '77; died Dec., '77.
 Cooper, Richard, May 14, '77; served three years.
 Conklin, Thomas, May 20, '77; taken prisoner at Fort Montgomery; died in prison.
 Yeomans, Benjamin, May 20, '77 to June, '78.
 Hopper, Peter, June 10, '77, to Jan. '82.
 Falron, John, June, '77; missing Oct. 6, '77.
 Secor, John, Corporal, June 26, '77, to Dec. 3, '80.
 Jones, Joseph, July 6, '77, to Jan., '82.
 Babcock, Abm., July 9, '77, to April 1, '78.
 Babcock, Elisha, July 12, '77; missing, Oct., '77.
 Ten Eyck, Joseph, substitute for Peter Bogardus, Aug. 25, '77; missing Oct. 6, '77; rejoined to Jan., '82.
 Adams, Ephraim, missing Oct. 6, '77.
 Drake, Francis, missing Oct. 6, '77.
 Murphy, Edward, Nov., '77 to —
 Chase, Caleb, Nov. 25, '77, to Feb. 7, '78.
 Yeomans, Isaac, Nov. 5, '77, to Feb. 7, '78.
 McDermott, Francis, May 18, '79; nine months.
 Ellison, John, Corporal, Feb. 12, '77, to Jan., '82.

MILITIA—LOWER (ORANGETOWN) REGIMENT.

- Colonel, Abraham Lent, resigned March 26, '76
 Lieut.-Colonel, Joh's David Blauvelt, resigned Feb. 27, '77.
 First Major, Joh's J. Blauvelt.
 Second Major, Abram David Blauvelt.
 Adjutant, Jacobus De Clark.
 Quartermaster, Isaac Perry.

SOUTHERN COMPANY.

- Captain Joh's Jacob Blauvelt.
 First Lieut., James Lent.
 Second Lieut., James Smith.
 Ensign Hendrick Van den Linde Verbryck.

EASTERN COMPANY.

- Captain Joseph Bell.
 First Lieut., John Sitcher.
 Second Lieut., William Graham.
 Ensign Daniel Onderdonek.

NORTHERN COMPANY.

Captain Isaac Smith.

First Lieut., John Isaac Blauvelt.

Second Lieut., William Sickles.

Ensign Lambert Smith.

John Haring was Brigade Major to General George Clinton 1776-7.

P. Paulman was Captain in Moylan's Fourth Light Dragoons; formerly Lieut., Sappers and Miners.

Committee of Conspiracies—Gilbert Cooper, Thomas Moffat, Henry Wisner.

References: New York State Archives.

CHAPTER XIII.

CLOSE OF THE WAR.

Readjustment of County Lines—Increase of Population—Militia Companies Before the Civil War—Regiments Organized During the Civil War—Transportation—County Officers.

THE precincts of Orangetown, Haverstraw, Goshen and Cornwall constituted the political divisions of the county of Orange until March, 1788, when by a general law, entitled "An Act for dividing the counties of this State into towns," the title of precinct was changed to that of town in these four cases. At the same time the towns of Warwick and Minisink were set apart from Goshen. In 1791 the towns of Clarkstown and Ramapo were erected, from territory that was embraced in the precinct of Haverstraw. With the close of the war of the Revolution, a period of rapid growth and material prosperity began for the county. The establishing of a republican form of government, based on equality of rights and religious and civil liberty, attracted thousands of people, mainly from the British Isles. The rich farming lands along the Hudson river valley, and especially in Orange county, were in large demand. By 1790 the population of the county had increased to 18,492. The precinct of Haverstraw was the most populous, having 4,826 inhabitants; Cornwall was next with 4,225; Warwick, 3,603; Goshen, 2,448; Minisink, 2,215; Orangetown, 1,175. The circumstances which led to a readjustment of county lines are too well known and apparent to be related here except in brief form. The proceeding was not extraordinary or unusual, such rearrangements of boundaries form part of the history of most counties, and the only regret in this case is that the original name was not retained by the section entitled to hold it, with all its precious historical associations. For this

MAP
OF THE VILLAGE
OF
TAPPAN N.Y.
IN 1899



Andrew's route was from 4 North to the road to Old Tappan, thence West to the first road



reason the stranger and the youthful reader of general history does not at first realize all the honor which belongs to Rockland county.

The inconveniences connected with a high range of mountains extending across the county were appreciated from the first, especially by the settlers on the north side, and as the population increased measures of accommodation were framed. Thus it was that Orange county came to have two places for holding courts. Although there was some little sectional feeling, Orange county might have continued as it stood with two half-shire towns, had it not been for exterior influences. The people of Southern Ulster were dissatisfied. They were required to transact their business at Kingston, and it was just as inconvenient for the people of New Windsor, Newburgh and Montgomery (together with the southern sections of Marlborough, Shawangunk and Wallkill), to transact their court business in Kingston, as for the people of Cornwall and Minisink to come to Orangetown. A court house at Newburgh would accommodate the people of both northern Orange and southern Ulster, and the village of Newburgh was greatly desirous of being a county seat. These various circumstances and conditions combined to sunder old ties. A union of the towns of northern Orange with the southern tier of towns of Ulster was long the subject of agitation. A convention of delegates from the towns interested in that phase of the movement was held at Ward's Bridge (now Montgomery village) on the 6th of April, 1793. Nothing was definitely settled by the meeting. Goshen was not averse to becoming the sole capital of a new county, but was disinclined to divide the honor with Newburgh. But upon no other condition would Newburgh consent to a union. In February, 1794, a second convention met at the house of John Decker at Otterkill. Sectional interests were at war again. Goshen's ambition to be the sole capital of a county was frustrated by the declaration of the Newburgh delegates, under instructions, that they would consent to no union at all that would not bestow county-seat privileges upon their village. This terminated negotiations for the time being. Three years later, in 1797, a third convention, similarly constituted, assembled at Kerr's hotel, in Little Britain, when conflicting interests were harmonized and it was agreed that courts should be held at Newburgh and Goshen alternately, and then the proposition for the new county was ratified.

Two bills were presented to the Legislature in the winter of 1797-8. One was entitled, "An Act for Dividing the County of Orange," the

other, "An Act for Altering the Counties of Orange and Ulster." The first bill was passed on the 23rd of February, and provided: "That all that tract of land in the county of Orange, lying northwest of a line beginning at Poplopen's kill, on Hudson's river, and running thence to the southeastermost corner of the farm of Stephen Sloat, and thence along the south bounds of his farm to the southwest corner thereof, and thence on the same course to the bounds of the State of New Jersey, shall be and hereby is erected into a separate county, and shall be called and known by the name of Orange." The new county thus set off should in justice have received a new name, leaving the ancient and historical name to the part better entitled to it, but the sentiment of the times and the influence of other sections concerned served to fix upon the territory south of the mountain the new name of "Rockland." The people of this county were generally satisfied with the division.

The second bill was passed on the 5th of April, and provided "that the towns of New Windsor, Newburgh, Wallkill, Montgomery and Deerpark, now in the county of Ulster, shall be and hereby are annexed to the county of Orange."

Peace and prosperity have ever attended the county of Rockland. Her population and wealth have steadily increased. Starting with four townships only one more has been added: Stony Point was set off from Haverstraw in 1865. Though the soil of the county has never since the Revolution been ravaged by war, though armies have never contended in fierce combat for the possessions of her fortresses, the sons of Rockland performed the full measure of their duty in the second war with England, and in the Mexican, the Civil and Spanish wars. On September 3, 1814, a company of militia under Captain Jacob I. Blauvelt sailed from Tappan Landing, and another under Captain John Snedeker sailed from Haverstraw for New York, and were on duty there until November 29, when they returned home. Rockland county also contributed her quota of men to an artillery battalion raised in this Senatorial district, then composed of Rockland, Orange, Dutchess and Ulster counties. The battalion was on duty for a few months in 1814, at New York and vicinity. During the Mexican war a cavalry company, called the "Rockland County Rangers," was organized, but was not called into the national service. This company continued in existence for many years, and was on duty for two days and a night during the Haverstraw riot of 1853.

Before the Civil War the militia companies in the county formed part of the Seventeenth Regiment of the New York State militia. To this regiment belonged the Wayne Guards of Haverstraw, Company C of Piermont, Company D of Stony Point, Company F (Ingold Guards) of Haverstraw, Company I of Ramapo township, and the "Rockland County Rangers," of Nyack and Clarkstown. The last review of the regiment was at Verplanck's Point on October 21, 1862.

In 1863, under a State law for the raising of a militia regiment in every Assembly district, seven companies were organized in this county, the whole being known as the Fifty-Seventh Regiment, John S. Haring, Colonel; John S. Stephens, Lieut.-Colonel. The regiment was disbanded a few years after the war. Company B (16th Battalion) was the last militia company in the history of the county. It was disbanded December 17, 1881. Its headquarters was at Nyack. It was on duty for a week at Haverstraw, in May, 1877, preserving the peace after some rioting, and was quartered at the United States Hotel. In the summer of the same year the company was on duty at the armory from July 24th to August 2, on account of railroad strikes and disorders.

In the Civil War Nyack sent a company to the front on May 9, 1861. This was Company G of the Seventeenth Regiment, a regiment mainly recruited in Westchester county, and called the Westchester Chasseurs. James H. Demarest was the first captain. Haverstraw sent away the DeNoyelles Guards (Captain Edward Pye), October 16, 1861, to become Company F of the Ninety-Fifth Regiment, and on November 21 of the same year, she gave another noble band, the Stephens Guards (Captain A. F. Ingold), which became Company B of the Ninety-Fifth N. Y. Volunteers. On December 5 Captain Dominick Kennedy left Haverstraw with twenty-seven recruits for the Ninety-Fifth Regiment, and at later periods men left Haverstraw to join the Fifth New York, the Irish Brigade, and the Ninety-fifth N. Y. and other regiments. Nyack contributed forty-three men to companies A and B of the 127th Regiment. The Sixth N. Y. Artillery, mustered at Yonkers, September 2, 1862, received nearly a hundred members from Rockland county, and the Sixty-fifth New York took ten of her boys. In 1863 the Seventeenth Regiment, N. Y. S. M., was ordered to the front to defend Washington, and was on garrison duty at Fort Independence and Fort McHenry for a fortnight or less. Recruits for

volunteer regiments came from all the towns in the county to join the companies raised in Haverstraw and Nyack heretofore referred to and also other companies. During the war the women of the county also did their duty, and their societies, especially at Nyack, Haverstraw and Piermont, sent many boxes of supplies to the men on the firing lines. Branches of the Loyal League were organized at Haverstraw and Nyack. Rockland county's quota under the first draft was 204; of the conscripts six only served in person. Under the second draft the county's quota was 221—Haverstraw 91, Orangetown 56, Clarkstown 38, Ramapo 37. Third draft—Haverstraw 194, Ramapo 112. Fourth draft—Haverstraw 136, Orangetown 107, Ramapo 81, Clarkstown 82. Each of the towns met in full all the calls upon it, except Haverstraw. In all, Rockland actually furnished 558 men for the war, divided among the towns as follows: Haverstraw 198, Ramapo 163, Orangetown 123, Clarkstown 64. Of these, 89 gave up their lives.

Rockland county has contributed to as well as shared in the material progress of the times. Apart from agriculture and commerce, quarrying and mining were early industries in the county. The quarrying industry centered at Nyack, and by 1820 had reached large proportions. There were over thirty quarries in the vicinity of Nyack. The next considerable branch of industry was represented by the iron works in the Ramapo valley; these contributed to the prosperity of the whole county in a large degree. Brick-making began at Haverstraw in 1815, that place has been the national leader in the business for nearly seventy-five years; inventions which have revolutionized the methods of manufacture originated there. The construction of the fine turnpike from Nyack to Suffern, begun in 1830, was a very important public improvement, of great advantage to the Ramapo valley as well as to Nyack, but not favored by Haverstraw, which through it lost considerable back country trade. Steamboating had just begun at this period, and the combined effect of the two enterprises made the port of Nyack a very busy one. The steamboat *Orange*, Captain John M. White, Jr., made its first trip between Nyack and New York on the 5th of May, 1828. In 1830 the Orangetown Point Steamboat Company organized and commenced the construction of the steamboat *Rockland*, which began running the following year between Orangetown Point and New York. Haverstraw, not to be outdone, organized a steamboat company also and

built the Warren, which, starting from Haverstraw on alternate mornings, at 11 o'clock, landed at Snedeker's, Slaughter's, Nyack, Sneden's Closter and Huyler's. The Arrow began running from Haverstraw in competition with the Warren, in 1838.

The steamboat was not long come when another great aid to transportation appeared—the railroad. Tappan landing, in this county, was selected for the eastern terminus of the Erie, and there a great pier a mile in length was built into the river to deep water. The name of the place was then changed to Piermont. The construction of the road was begun in 1838, and by 1841 the line was in operation between Goshen and Piermont, and from the great pier passengers were transferred to steamboats. Piermont was an exceedingly prosperous village until the Erie was extended to Jersey City, in 1852. Thereafter the section of road between Suffern and Piermont ceased to be the main line and became a branch. The Northern road, opened to Piermont in 1859, the Nyack and Northern in 1870, the New Jersey and New York to Haverstraw in 1875, and the West Shore in 1883, added to and completed the railroad facilities of the county.

The first officers of the county of Rockland were: Supervisors—James Perry of Orangetown, Benjamin Coe of Haverstraw, Claus R. Van Houten, of Clarkstown, James Onderdonk of Ramapo. County Clerk, David Pye; County Judge, John Suffern; Surrogate, Peter Taulman; Sheriff, Jacob Wood; Member of Assembly, Benjamin Coe.

By the census of 1800, two years after the erection of the county, the population was as follows: Hempstead (Ramapo), 1,981; Clarkstown, 1,806; Orangetown, 1,337; total, 6,353.

In 1890 the county had a population of 35,162. In 1900 the census gave 38,298, divided as follows:

	1900.	1890.
Clarkstown, including Upper Nyack village.....	6,305	5,216
Upper Nyack village	516	668
Haverstraw town, including Haverstraw and West		
Haverstraw villages	9,874	9,079
Haverstraw village	5,935	5,070
West Haverstraw village	2,079	180
Orangetown, including Nyack, Piermont and		
South Nyack villages.....	10,456	10,343

Nyack village	4,275	4,111
Piermont village	1,153	1,219
South Nyack village	1,601	1,496
Ramapo town, including Hillburn and Suffern vil-		
lages	7,502	5,910
Hillburn village	824	
Suffern village	1,619	
Stony Point town	4,161	4,614

COUNTY OFFICERS—1902.

Arthur S. Tompkins, Congressman.....	Nyack
George Dickey, Member of Assembly.....	Nyack
Andrew X. Fallon, County Judge and Surrogate.....	Piermont
Fred S. Weiant, Sheriff.....	Haverstraw
Cyrus M. Crum, County Clerk.....	New City
William J. Randolph, County Treasurer.....	Nyack
Thomas H. Lee, District Attorney.....	Stony Point
Charles E. Sloat, Coroner.....	Haverstraw
Hammond Hicks, Coroner.....	Spring Valley
Sylvester Demarest, Coroner.....	Suffern
James H. Morrissey, Superintendent of the Poor.....	Haverstraw
Charles H. Zundel, Loan Commissioner.....	Haverstraw
Jouathan W. Sherwood, School Commissioner.....	Spring Valley
Joseph DeNoyelles, Clerk of Supervisors.....	New City
Richard S. Harvey, Clerk of Surrogate's Court.....	Nyack

SUPERVISORS FOR 1902.

Alfred V. H. Clark, Clarkstown.....	Nanuet
Josiah Felter, Haverstraw.....	Haverstraw
Edwin Lydecker, Orangetown.....	Nyack
Frank S. Harris, Ramapo.....	Suffern
Alex. Rose, Stony Point.....	Stony Point
Clerk of Supervisors, Joseph DeNoyelles	New City

SENATORS FOR THIS DISTRICT.

1848-48, Saxton Smith; 1850-51, Benjamin Brandreth; 1852-53, Abram B. Conger; 1854-55, Wm. H. Robertson; 1856-57, John W. Fardon; 1858-59, Benjamin Brandreth; 1860-63, H. D. Robertson; 1864-67,

Henry R. Low; 1868-71, Wm. Caldwell; 1872-81, Wm. H. Robertson; 1882-87, Henry C. Nelson; 1888-91, Wm. H. Robertson; 1892-93, Charles P. McClelland; 1894-97, Clarence Lexow; 1898-1903, Louis Goodsell.

MEMBERS OF ASSEMBLY.

1798-9, Benjamin Coe; 1800, Samuel G. VerBryck; 1800-1, Samuel G. VerBryck; 1802-3, Peter DeNoyelles; 1804, Samuel G. VerBryck; 1804-5, John Cole; 1806, John Haring; 1807-9, Samuel G. VerBryck; 1810-15, Peter S. VanOrden; 1816, Cornelius A. Blauvelt; 1816-17, Cornelius A. Blauvelt; 1818-19, Abram Gurnee; 1820, Samuel G. VerBryck; 1820-21, Abram Gurnee; 1822, Cornelius Blauvelt; 1823, John I. Suffern; 1824, Peter S. VanOrden; 1825, Abram Gurnee; 1826, Abram Gurnee, Edward Suffern (Gurnee's seat was contested by Suffern, who was admitted January 27); 1827, Levi Sherwood; 1828, Levi Sherwood; 1829-30, George S. Allison; 1831, John I. Eckerson; 1832, Isaac Blauvelt; 1833, James D. L. Montanya; 1834, Daniel Johnson; 1835, Edward Suffern; 1836, Daniel Johnson; 1837, Abram J. Demarest; 1838, David Clark; 1839, Benjamin Blackledge; 1840, Wm. F. Frazer; 1841-2, Edward DeNoyelles; 1843, Cornelius M. Demarest; 1844, John Haring Jr.; 1845, Joseph P. Brower; 1846, Sampson Marks; 1847, John A. Haring; 1848, Lawrence J. Sneden; 1849, Matthew D. Bogart; 1850, Brewster J. Allison; 1851, Jacob Sickles; 1852, John Demarest; 1853, Nicholas C. Blauvelt; 1854, John I. Suffern; 1855, John W. Ferdon; 1856, Edward Whitmore; 1857, James Westervelt; 1858-9, Wesley J. Weiant; 1860, Peter S. Yeury; 1861, Wm. R. Knapp; 1862-4, James S. Haring; 1865, Prince W. Nickerson; 1866, Prince W. Nickerson; 1867, James Suffern; 1868, Thomas Lawrence; 1869, James Suffern; 1870-71, James M. Nelson; 1872, Daniel Tompkins; 1873, Wm. Voorhis; 1874, Wm. R. Knapp; 1875, James C. Brown; 1876-7, George W. Weiant; 1878, James M. Nelson; 1879-80, James W. Husted; 1880-1, John Cleary; 1883, Wm. H. Thompson; 1884-5, John W. Felter; 1886-7, George Dickey; 1888-9, Frank P. Demarest; 1890, Arthur S. Tompkins; 1891, Frank P. Demarest; 1892-3, Thomas Finegan; 1894-6, Otis H. Cutler; 1897, Fred L. Whritner; 1898-9, Irving Brown; 1900, Frank P. Demarest; 1901, George Dickey.

SUPERVISORS.

1857—Aaron T. Polhamus, Clarkstown; Wesley J. Weiant, Haverstraw; Marcena M. Dickinson, Orangetown; Peter P. Jersey, Ramapo.

1858—Isaac Tallman, Clarkstown; Wm. R. Knapp, Haverstraw; James S. Haring, Orangetown; John Crum, Ramapo.

1859—Isaac Tallman, Clarkstown; Wm. R. Knapp, Haverstraw; James S. Haring, Orangetown; John Crum, Ramapo.

1860—James L. Conklin, Clarkstown; John L. DeNoyelles, Haverstraw; James S. Haring, Orangetown; Henry R. Sloat, Ramapo.

1861—James L. Conklin, Clarkstown; Prince W. Nickerson, Haverstraw; James S. Haring, Orangetown; John B. Gurnee, Ramapo.

1862—John E. Hogenkamp, Clarkstown; Prince W. Nickerson, Haverstraw; John S. Haring, Orangetown; John D. Christie, Ramapo.

1863—John E. Hogenkamp, Clarkstown; Prince W. Nickerson, Haverstraw; Wm. Dickey, Orangetown; Erastus Johnson, Ramapo.

1864—John E. Hogenkamp, Clarkstown; Prince W. Nickerson, Haverstraw; Wm. Dickey, Orangetown; Erastus Johnson, Ramapo.

1865—John E. Hogenkamp, Clarkstown; John I. Cole, Haverstraw; James S. Haring, Orangetown; Andrew Smith, Ramapo; Wesley J. Weiant, Stony Point.

1866—John E. Hogenkamp, Clarkstown; John I. Cole, Haverstraw; James S. Haring, Orangetown; James Suffern, Ramapo; Wesley J. Weiant, Stony Point.

1867—Peter T. Stephens, Clarkstown; John I. Cole, Haverstraw; James S. Haring, Orangetown; James Suffern, Ramapo; Daniel Tompkins, Stony Point.

1868—Peter T. Stephens, Clarkstown; Samuel C. Blauvelt, Haverstraw; James S. Haring, Orangetown; James Suffern, Ramapo; Frederick Tompkins, Stony Point.

1869—Tunis Blauvelt, Clarkstown; Samuel C. Blauvelt, Haverstraw; James S. Haring, Orangetown; James Suffern, Ramapo; Geo. W. Weiant, Stony Point.

1870—Tunis Blauvelt, Clarkstown; Samuel C. Blauvelt, Haverstraw; James S. Haring, Orangetown; George W. Suffern, Ramapo; George W. Weiant, Stony Point.

1871—Tunis Blauvelt, Clarkstown; Samuel C. Blauvelt, Haverstraw; James S. Haring, Orangetown; George W. Suffern, Ramapo; Wm. E. King, Stony Point.

1872—Isaac VanNostrand, Clarkstown; Samuel C. Blauvelt, Haverstraw; Isaac M. Dederer, Orangetown; Dwight B. Baker, Ramapo; Wm. E. King, Stony Point.

1873—Tunis Blauvelt, Clarkstown; Samuel C. Blauvelt, Haverstraw; Isaac M. Dederer, Orangetown; Dwight B. Baker, Ramapo; Wm. E. King, Stony Point.

1874—Nelson Stephens, Clarkstown; Samuel C. Blauvelt, Haverstraw; D. D. Demarest, Orangetown; Peter L. Van Orden, Ramapo; Wm. E. King, Stony Point.

1875—Nelson Stephens, Clarkstown; Henry Christie, Haverstraw; D. D. Demarest, Orangetown; Peter L. VanOrden, Ramapo; Wm. E. King, Stony Point.

1876—Nelson Stephens, Clarkstown; John W. Felter, Haverstraw; Henry A. Blauvelt, Orangetown; Jacob Snider, Ramapo; H. Osborn, Stony Point.

1877—Isaac Van Nostrand, Clarkstown; John W. Felter, Haverstraw; Henry A. Blauvelt, Orangetown; George W. Suffern, Ramapo; H. Osborn, Stony Point.

1878—Isaac Van Nostrand, Clarkstown; John W. Felter, Haverstraw; Henry A. Blauvelt, Orangetown; George W. Suffern, Ramapo; Wm. E. King, Stony Point.

1879—Barne Van Houten, Clarkstown; John W. Felter, Haverstraw; John H. Blauvelt, Orangetown; George W. Suffern, Ramapo; Wm. E. King, Stony Point.

1880—Barne Van Houten, Clarkstown; Josiah Felter, Haverstraw; George Dickey, Orangetown; George W. Suffern, Ramapo; Fred Tompkins, Stony Point.

1881—Joseph G. Demarest, Clarkstown; Josiah Felter, Haverstraw; George Dickey, Orangetown; George W. Suffern, Ramapo; Fred Tompkins, Stony Point.

1882—Joseph G. Demarest, Clarkstown; Josiah Felter, Haverstraw; Hagaman Onderdonk, Orangetown; Peter Tallman, Ramapo; Fred Tompkins, Stony Point.

1883—Frank P. Demarest, Clarkstown; Josiah Felter, Haverstraw; George Dickey, Orangetown; Peter Tallman, Ramapo; Fred Tompkins, Stony Point.

1884—Frank P. Demarest, Clarkstown; Josiah Felter, Haverstraw; George Dickey, Orangetown; Peter Tallman, Ramapo; Fred Tompkins, Stony Point.

1885—Frank P. Demarest, Clarkstown; Josiah Felter, Haverstraw; George Dickey, Orangetown; Abram D. Blauvelt, Ramapo; Wm. K. Hammond, Stony Point.

1886—Frank P. Demarest, Clarkstown; Josiah Felter, Haverstraw; Henry E. Smith, Orangetown; Jacob Snider, Ramapo; Wm. K. Hammond, Stony Point.

1887—Frank P. Demarest, Clarkstown; Josiah Felter, Haverstraw; Andrew X. Fallon, Orangetown; Jacob Snider, Ramapo; Richard B. Marks, Stony Point.

1888—Frank P. Demarest, Clarkstown; Josiah Felter, Haverstraw; Andrew X. Fallon, Orangetown; Jacob Snider, Ramapo; Mordacai F. Washburn, Stony Point.

1899—Frank P. Demarest, Clarkstown; Josiah Felter, Haverstraw; Andrew X. Fallon, Orangetown; John C. Messimer, Ramapo; Richard B. Marks, Stony Point.

1890—Frank P. Demarest, Clarkstown; Josiah Felter, Haverstraw; Peter B. McGregor, Ramapo; Andrew X. Fallon, Orangetown; Richard B. Marks, Stony Point.

1891—Joseph DeNoyelles, Clarkstown; Andrew X. Fallon, Orangetown; Josiah Felter, Haverstraw; Peter B. McGregor, Ramapo; Alex. Rose, Stony Point.

1892—Joseph DeNoyelles, Clarkstown; C. V. A. Blauvelt, Orangetown; Josiah Felter, Haverstraw; T. Harry Ward, Ramapo; Fred W. Penny, Stony Point.

1893—Joseph DeNoyelles, Clarkstown; C. V. A. Blauvelt, Orangetown; Josiah Felter, Haverstraw; T. Harry Ward, Ramapo; Fred W. Penny, Stony Point.

1894—Joseph DeNoyelles, Clarkstown; Josiah Felter, Haverstraw; Andrew X. Fallon, Orangetown; T. Harry Ward, Ramapo; Alex. Rose, Stony Point.

1895—Joseph DeNoyelles, Clarkstown; Josiah Felter, Haverstraw; Andrew X. Fallon, Orangetown; Warren Blanchard, Ramapo; Alex. Rose, Stony Point.

1896—Frank P. Demarest, Clarkstown; Josiah Felter, Haverstraw; Andrew X. Fallon, Orangetown; Abram D. Blauvelt, Ramapo; Alex. Rose, Stony Point.

1897—Frank P. Demarest, Clarkstown; Josiah Felter, Haverstraw; Andrew X. Fallon, Orangetown; Abram D. Blauvelt, Ramapo; Alex. Rose, Stony Point.

1898-9—Frank P. Demarest, Clarkstown; Josiah Felter, Haverstraw; Andrew X. Fallon, Orangetown; Frank S. Harris, Ramapo; Alex. Rose, Stony Point.

1900-1—Alfred V. H. Clark, Clarkstown; Josiah Felter, Haverstraw; James Van Weelden, Orangetown; Frank S. Harris, Ramapo; Alex. Rose, Stony Point.

1902-3—A. V. H. Clark, Clarkstown; Josiah Felter, Haverstraw; Edwin Lydecker, Orangetown; Frank S. Harris, Ramapo; Alex. Rose, Stony Point.

COUNTY CLERKS.

1691, Dirk Storm; 1703, Wm. Huddleston; 1721, Gerardus Clows; 1723, Thomas Pullen; 1726, Vincent Matthews, Cornwall; 1735, Gabriel Ludlow, Jr.; 1736, Vincent Matthews; 1763, David Matthews; 1794, Reuben Hopkins, Goshen; 1805, Abraham Cornelison; 1808, Thomas Howard, Jr.; 1821, David Pye; 1828, James Stephens; 1832-4, David Pye; 1835-46, Abraham Hogenkamp; 1847-52, Isaac A. Blauvelt; Abram DeBaun, to fill vacancy of Isaac A. Blauvelt, to Dec. 31, 1850; 1851-6, John E. Hogenkamp; 1857-68, Abram A. Demarest; Cyrus M. Crum, 1869; elected every three years to the present time. Term expires December 31, 1904.

COUNTY JUDGES.

1710, John Corbett; 1717, Peter Haring; 1720, Cornelius Haring; 1733, Vincent Matthews; 1739, Abram Peter Haring; 1749, Abram Haring; 1769, Michael Jackson of Goshen; 1774, John Haring; 1775, John Coe; 1778, John Haring; 1798, John Suffren; 1806, James Perry; 1816, Samuel Goetchius; 1820, Edward Suffern; 1833 to 1847, Edward Suffern.

SURROGATE.

1807—Tunis Smith; 1808, Peter Taulman; 1810, Garret Onder-

donk; 1811, Richard Blauvelt; 1820, Bernard O'Brien; 1821, James Stevens; 1829, John Van Houten; 1837 John J. Wood; 1841, George Benson; 1845, Horatio G. Prall.

COUNTY JUDGE AND SURROGATE.

1847-55, Wm. F. Frazer; 1856- 9, Edward Pye; 1860-'80, Andrew E. Suffern; 1880-81, Alonzo Wheeler; 1881, Seth B. Cole; 1882-'93, George W. Weiant; 1893, Wm. McCauley, Jr.; 1894-98, Arthur S. Tompkins; 1899, Alonzo Wheeler; 1900-'06, Andrew X. Fallon.

DISTRICT ATTORNEYS.

1818, Edward Suffern; 1820, John T. Smith; 1833-'47, Wm. F. Frazer; 1847-'53, Horatio G. Prall; 1853-'59, Andrew E. Suffern; 1860-'62, Thomas Lawrence; 1863-8, M. M. Dickenson; 1869, L. V. E. Robinson; 1869, Wm. C. Prall; 1870-'72, Hiram B. Fenton; 1873-5, Seth B. Cole; 1876-8, M. M. Dickenson; 1879-'84, Alonzo Wheeler; 1885-7, Abram A. Demarest; 1888-'90, Garret Z. Snider; 1891-'93, Wm. McCauley, Jr.; 1894-'96, Frank Comesky; 1897-8, Alonzo Wheeler; 1899, George A. Wyre; 1900-'02, Thomas H. Lee.

COUNTY TREASURERS.

1855-'69, Matthew D. Bogert; 1870-'75, John B. Gurnee; 1876-'87, Daniel D. Demarest; 1888-'93, Abram D. Blauvelt; 1894-'96, Cornelius V. A. Blauvelt; 1897-'99, John M. Hasbrouck; 1900-'02, Wm. J. Randolph.

SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS.

1844-'45, Nicholas C. Blauvelt; 1846-'47, Joseph P. Brower; 1848-'49, Wm. B. Westervelt; 1856-'57, Edward Suffern; 1858-'60, Simon D. Demarest; 1861-'63, Simon D. Demarest; 1864-'66, Nicholas C. Blauvelt; 1867-'69, Leander V. E. Robinson; 1869, Nicholas C. Blauvelt; 1870-'72, Nelson Puff; 1873-'78, Spenceer Wood; 1879-'81, Wm. Van Wagenen; 1882-'84, Thomas W. Suffern; 1885-'87, Thomas W. Suffern; 1888-'90, George E. Knapp; 1891-'93, Frank Comesky; 1894-'96, George A. Blauvelt; 1897-'99, Robert R. Felter; 1900-'02, John W. Sherwood.

SHERIFFS.

1685, M. Johannis; 1690, Floris W. Crom; 1694, Stanley Hancock of New York; 1699, John Peterson; 1702, John Perry; 1706, Jeremiah Caniff; 1708, Cornelius Cooper; 1709, Cornelius Haring; 1718, Timothy

Halstead; 1730, William Pullen; 1737, Michael Dunning of Goshen, Thadeus Snedeker; 1741, Joshe Sackett of Cornwall; 1756, Jonathan Lawrence of Cornwall; 1758, Daniel Everett, Goshen; 1761 Daniel Denton, Goshen; 1764, Jesse Woodhull, Cornwall; 1772, James Matthews of Cornwall; 1777, Isaac Nicoll, Goshen; 1781, William W. Thompson, Goshen; 1785, Hezekiah Howell, Cornwall; 1799, Peter Taulman; 1800, Peter Stevens; 1804, Evert Hogencamp; 1808, Peter Stevens; 1810, Isaac Blanch; 1811, Peter Stevens; 1814, Peter Hay; 1818, John B. Haring; 1820, Abram Stephens; 1821, John B. Haring; 1825, A. P. Stephens; 1828, John B. Haring; 1831, Richard Blauvelt; 1832-'34, Richard Blauvelt; 1835-'37, Harmon Blauvelt; 1838-'40, John P. Felter; 1841-'43, John C. Blauvelt; 1844-'46, A. A. Casedy; 1847-'49, Asbury DeNoyelles; 1850-'52, Hagaman Onderdonk; 1853-'55, Henry L. Sherwood; 1856-'58, John H. Stephens; 1859-'61, Wm. Perry; 1862-'64, John H. Stephens; 1865-'67, Daniel C. Springsteen; 1868, Wm. J. Perry; 1868-'73, Daniel C. Springsteen; 1874-'76, Charles B. Benson; 1877-'79, Wm. Hutton; 1880-'82, Henry Christie; 1883-'85, John A. Haring; 1886-'88, Wm. H. Thompson; 1889-'91, John F. Shankey; 1892-'94, George Dickey; 1895-'97, Edward S. Annis (died March 10, 1897); 1897, Wm. P. Foss, Wm. Dewey; 1898-1900, Cornelius V. A. Blauvelt; 1901-'03, Fred S. Weiant.

SUPERINTENDENTS OF THE POOR.

1843, Jacob Hauptman, John R. Van Houten, James Suffern, Jacob J. Eckerson; 1844, Jacob Hauptman, John R. Van Houten, James Suffern, Jacob J. Eckerson; 1845, Jacob Hauptman, John R. Van Houten, James Suffern, Jacob J. Eckerson; 1846, Jacob Hauptman, James Suffern, John R. Van Houten, Jacob J. Eckerson; 1847, Jacob Hauptman, John R. Van Houten, Abram J. Demarest, James Suffern; 1848, John Hunting, John R. Van Houten, Abram J. Demarest, James Suffern; 1849, John Hunting; 1849-'50, John A. Haring; 1849-'51, John R. Van Houten; 1850-'52, David Benson; 1851-'53, Samson Marks; 1853-'55, Richard Blauvelt; 1854-'56, George E. DeNoyelles; 1855-'57, John R. Gurnee; 1856-'58, A. S. Crum; 1857-'59, Abram A. Stagg; 1858-'60, John B. Gurnee; 1859-'61, Isaac Blauvelt; 1860-'62, Abram A. Stagg; 1861-'63, Jesse Conklin; 1862-'64, Isaiah Milburn; 1863-'65, Spencer Wood; 1864-'66, Jesse Conklin; 1865-'67, Jacob Horn; 1866-'68, Osear Wood; 1867-'69, Elias G. Sherwood;

1868-'70, Jacob Horn; 1869-'70, Spencer Wood; 1871-73, Thomas Dinan; 1872-'74, Samuel A. VerValen; 1873-'75, Jesse Conklin; 1874-'76, Thomas Dinan; 1875, James A. Barns, Erastus Johnson; 1876-78, William Serven; 1877-'80, James Coates; 1878-'80, Richard B. Marks; 1881-'83, Richard B. Marks; 1884-'86, Richard B. Marks; 1887-'89, Hiram W. Babcock; 1890-'92, Hiram W. Babcock; 1893-'95, Matthew B. Marks; 1896-'98, Hiram W. Babcock; 1899-1901, James E. Sherwood; 1902-4, James H. Morrissey.

References: Rittenber's Orange County. Green's Rockland County.

CHAPTER XIV.

ROCKLAND COUNTY MEDICAL PROFESSION.

By Dr. N. B. Bayley, Haverstraw.

Pioneer Physicians—The Practice of Medicine in Early Days—Organization of Medical Societies—Hospitals—Biographies, Etc.

IN undertaking to write the medical history of Rockland county one is met at the threshold with the same kind of obstacles, due to a paucity of early records, which confronts the historian of all early settlements, and makes therefore a full and continuous narrative of such affairs difficult and incomplete. The absence of early records on the part of the medical profession, the rarity of discoveries in the realm of the natural sciences, the slow diffusion of the results of scientific adventures, all combined to render the healing art somewhat unobtrusive. Nevertheless the progress in the science and art of medicine in the last three centuries are comparable with those in other departments of human activities. Unlike the discoveries and advancement in other sciences, such for instance as steam and electricity, which are heralded before the world by large and conspicuous mechanisms, the discoveries and advancements in the science and art of medicine are made and performed in the quiet and peaceful domain of the laboratory, the hospital and at the bedside of the sick, removed from the gaze of the multitude. Compared with other learned professions there is a reserve and a quietude, withal a shrinking from publicity, which operates to keep progress in medicine in some degree removed from the common conversation of everyday affairs. Though every house in the land is entered by the physician, though large and magnificent hospitals are erected

through the beneficence of the charitable, yet in the public eye the physician is less in evidence than the lawyer and the priest. The lawyer comes before the public on innumerable occasions, in pleading the cause of the unfortunate or in demanding justice for his client, and is the counsellor in every undertaking in the business world; he makes and to some extent is made an agent to carry into execution the laws which are often draughted by his hand. The clergyman is the first man in the society of every community; every day his voice is heard in prayer, exhortation or sermon; he is seen and known by all men, he is present at the infant's first epoch in life, after its birth, its baptism; in manhood at his marriage, the great civil epoch of his life, and finally at the end he pronounces the eulogy which makes the final record. The physician enters silently the sick room, performs his work and silently departs.

Accidents and sickness have always been a part of human history, and in the relief of distress is found an exemplification of one of the divine attributes enshrined in the human mind—the law of love. In administering to the needs of humanity those in all ages who possessed the greater skill and clearer comprehension came to have an established position in the community; the services of such persons were sought on many occasions, and in this way a fund of empiric knowledge was accumulated which became traditionary stock in the practice of medicine for many centuries. Much of this traditionary fund of knowledge has been incorporated in the educational curricula of former times so that those who had the benefit of a moderate education knew much of the medical practice of the day and were thus enabled to relieve the distress of their fellow companions. There were many such individuals among the earlier colonists.

It is not necessary to go into the details of the medical history of the world in the earlier part of the seventeenth century beyond the statement that the medical arts were beginning to feel a new impetus in scientific advancement. This century was a period of unrest in both political and scientific realms. Harvey in 1613 was teaching the circulation of the blood, which gave a new impulse to medicine. It is probable that the colonists were as well supplied with physicians as communities of similar size in Europe, especially after a permanent foothold had been obtained. In many of the shiploads of colonists which came to the Atlantic shores were clergymen who, in addition to their ecclesiastical, had received

a medical education; but there were physicians and surgeons also. On the *Mayflower* a Mr. Fuller, who had received a medical education, and his wife, who was a midwife, were passengers. In 1607 Dr. Wooten came to Virginia as Surgeon General of the London Company, and in the following year Dr. Russell followed. Both, however, returned in a short time, but were probably succeeded by others. There was no physician on Manhattan Island in 1626, when Peter Minuet purchased it for twenty-four dollars, but in the following year a Dr. Lamontagne, a Huguenot, arrived, who seems to have been a man of large capability. Thereafter, as the colonies increased in population, physicians of eminence in Europe emigrated to the New World and found fields of labor. Young men of affluence in the colonies went abroad to Europe for medical study, and upon their return laid the foundations of medical instruction and practice. It was the custom in these days, and, in fact, until recently, when a young man desired to become a physician to enter the office of a practitioner of medicine and surgery as his preceptor, who taught him some of its rudiments and much empiric knowledge. Here he remained for some time, and in some cases if unable to enter a medical college for study he received a license to practice medicine from some association of physicians empowered to confer this privilege upon examination. For many years county medical societies were empowered to examine candidates for the practice of medicine and to grant licenses therefor. Many capable and reputable practitioners received their medical education and licenses for practice in this manner. This county has had several such practitioners. The student who entered upon such a course of medical study was said "to read medicine," a phrase no doubt oftentimes true that he "read" rather than studied; but he sometimes studied. Besides "studying medicine" the student attended to some of his preceptor's domestic work, such as the care of the horse and gardens. The recitations were more or less regular, depending somewhat upon the preceptor's teaching ability and time at his disposal. Frequently the student attended his preceptor—both in their saddles—in his long rides through forests and fields, over mountains and through valleys, which afforded many opportunities for discoursing upon the symptoms, history and treatment of the diseases in the patients they had visited, pointing out critical signs and prognostications and drawing the attention of the student to the proper method of examination, caring for and treatment of the patient,

meanwhile interspersing his impromptu lecture with many wise counsels, derived from experience. These clinical lectures no doubt would compare favorably with many delivered at the present day in hospitals and colleges furnished with all the paraphernalia which science and wealth affords. It was not infrequent that eminent physicians had several students for his class. Besides the clinical conversations, students were occasionally taught botany and the art of compounding medicines, as physicians usually dispensed the remedies which they prescribed.

After finishing such apprenticeship if the student had the financial means he took one or two courses of lectures in a medical college or travelled abroad to perfect his medical education. Such a preparation usually contributed to make its possessor a prominent practitioner.

It was not infrequent that the medical and ecclesiastical professions were united in the same persons and both exercised at the same time. Dr. Stiles, President of Yale College, (and also a clergyman), relates in his "Diary" that he gave regular courses of medical lectures to the students under his care, some of whom subsequently received a medical degree and practiced medicine and who at the same time filled the position of pastors to churches. In Scudder's "Life of James Russell Lowell" it is related that Lowell's father, Rev. Chas. Lowell, a clergyman who was educated in Edinburgh, received also a medical education, which was of service to him in his parochial ministrations, "he carried the gospel in one hand and bread and pills in the other." This was not an infrequent practice in the earlier part of the nineteenth century, judging from the many traditional stories which have come down to us, such as "Our pastor received a call in the midst of his sermon and dismissed the congregation."

Nevertheless the necessity for medical services were probably not as frequent in the earlier colonial days as in later times. The healthful outdoor life, the nature of their occupation, the plain but substantial articles of food which formed their diet, the freedom from bad sanitation—a too frequent concomitant of large towns and villages—the few mechanical appliances and machinery both for indoor and outdoor work, the absence of huge engines for locomotion and propulsion, and the sturdy common sense of our ancestors in this country all contributed to render them unusually free from disease and accidents and tended to longevity. It is probable this rough frontier life barred out the weak and fragile. Severe

blasting epidemics occurred at long intervals, but our country has no record of any such devastating blight as has occurred in all other parts of the world. Vaccination coming into practice in the earlier part of the nineteenth century mitigated the devastation from smallpox, and the sparsely settled communities limited the ravages of scarlatina and diphtheria. Cholera once or twice obtained a foothold upon the Hudson river shores, but owing to the progress of sanitary science that danger is happily past. In these colonial houses scattered over the hills and through the valleys of our county the sick were cared for by the female members of the family, assisted by their neighbors and friends, who were always willing to give such helpful assistance as lay in their power. The children were nursed by their mother and her relatives. The wife was ministered to by some one in the neighborhood who by practice had obtained skill as a midwife, and only in emergencies was a physician summoned. And, indeed, owing to the excellent physique and healthfulness of the women, the summoning of a physician in a majority of cases would have been a useless errand as, owing to the long and difficult roads, his services could not have been available until the emergency requiring them had passed. In the earlier days of the colony and even down to the recollection of the "oldest inhabitant" every physician, when he visited a sick person, carried in his saddle bags his armamentarium, a wonderful source of supplies to the youthful eyes which beheld them. When a physician was called to a family he frequently stayed until the emergency was passed, whether childbirth or waiting for the crisis of the fever, and sometimes the detention would last several days, "until the patient was out of danger."

The sparsity of population, the long distances to be travelled, and that absence of general education which gives stimulus to the habit of recording daily happenings, combined with a strenuous effort for existence, suffices to account for a paucity of historical knowledge of the earlier colonial settlements. When the area now known as Rockland county was first settled it was embraced within the jurisdiction of Orange county. The early settlers were too few and too scattered to support a physician; they were hardy pioneers, their habits were adapted to plain living and to sturdy labor in wrestling with the elements of Nature, in which all things seemed to conspire to make men and women of fortitude, and enabled them to battle against the commoner ills which befall mankind in

luxurious living. In fact, their good sense demanded skilled medical attention, and when the population had increased sufficiently to support a resident physician one was settled amongst them.

The population of Rockland county increased slowly. In Orange county, which included Rockland, there were in 1693 "not above twenty families—219 persons, including 19 negroes." In 1702 the population numbered 268, of which number 33 were negroes. In 1712 the number of inhabitants was 439. In 1723 the population had increased to 1244, and in 1731 to 1969. In 1738 the population of Orangetown precinct was 830, of Haverstraw 654; a total of 1484. At this date there was a sufficient population in Rockland county to induce a physician to locate here.

The earliest record of any physician living in Rockland county is that of Dr. James (!) Osborn, who came thither from England in 1730 and settled within the precinct of Haverstraw, (it is said in the part which is now Stony Point). His practice extended over a large domain, long and lengthy journeys were required to visit the sick and suffering men and women who had braved the terrors of the wilderness, and the dangers from the Indians who roamed throughout that region. At that time he was probably the only physician on the west side of the Hudson river south of Newburgh. He continued in his practice until his death, of which there is no record. There can be no doubt that this pioneer physician was skillful in his profession and wrought good results among the early settlers. He was succeeded by his son, Dr. Richard Osborn, who was born in this county. Of his early life we know nothing further than that he studied medicine with his father as his preceptor and subsequently attended medical lectures in New York city and then returned to the Haverstraw precinct, where he settled in his father's practice, to which he succeeded upon his death. It is related that he entered the Federal army and was active in the service of Washington during the Revolution. At the close of the war he resumed his practice in Stony Point, where he continued until his death, which occurred in 1786. Some of the bills made out by him for professional services are still extant, but never paid—a fate which has met many physicians' bills since that time. Dr. Osborn's practice, like his father's, must have extended over the whole area of Rockland county, and also the southern part of Orange. Long and mountainous roads, through forests and swamps,

often mere bridle-paths, which required sharp sight and a sure-footed horse for passage, were the difficulties which a pioneer physician had to face. Our wonderment is that he succeeded so well. There were doubtless other early physicians who lived in the precinct of Haverstraw of whom we have no record. Contemporaneous with the later years of Dr. Richard Osborn, Dr. Jacob Outwater of Tappan ministered to the wants of a large community in the southern part of the county. He was succeeded by his son and grandson. (See notice of Dr. Jacob Outwater). In Dr. Greene's History of Rockland County is a reference to a Dr. Jesse Coe, who died in 1825, at the untimely age of twenty-five, and whose tombstone stands in the burying ground near the English church. In the same ground is found a stone erected to the memory of Margaret, wife of Dr. William Dusenbury, who died August 3rd, 1828.

In the early decades of the nineteenth century Dr. Abram Cornelison lived and practiced medicine in Clarkstown, near Clarksville. He was the first president of the original—but soon defunct—Rockland County Medical Society in 1829. There are extant unpaid bills of his for medical attendance of the years 1813-14-15. Dr. Cornelison was a portly man, weighing more than 300 pounds. He was always neatly attired, wearing a white waistcoat and clothing of fine texture. It is said that when he received a "call" to make a visit upon a patient that he first partook of a glass of whiskey—a practice in those days not considered reprehensible. He was twice married. He had two sons and two daughters. Dr. Cornelison lived to be an old man, probably eighty years of age at his death, which occurred about the year 1835, at his home in Clarkstown, and where his body is interred. One of his sons, Dr. Abram Dubois Cornelison, studied medicine and practiced for a time in Haverstraw, living on West street at its intersection with Main. He was secretary of the Rockland County Medical Society in 1829. He removed from Haverstraw in August, 1834, to No. 243 Hudson street, New York city, where he continued in practice the remainder of his life. The Drs. Cornelison, both father and son, are said to have been skillful physicians. There was formerly among physicians a custom of advertising which is not seen among reputable men at the present day; thus Dr. Cornelison in an advertisement in the "North River Times" gives notice of his removal to New York, thanks his patrons for the confidence reposed in him, and asks for its continuance. Another physician states his qualifications,

mentions his alma mater, the number of years of experience, and adds that he will truly practice the medical art. He probably had in mind the Hippocratic Oath. In point of time the next physician to settle in Haverstraw was Mark Pratt, A. M., M. D., who was descended from an old New England family and was born in Kent, Conn., April 15, 1804. He came from a scholarly family, as is evidenced by his graduation in Arts from Yale College in 1826, and also his brother at a later date. He studied medicine at Yale College and graduated two years later, in 1828. After graduation he practiced for a short time in Delhi, Delaware county, N. Y., but in 1833 he removed to Haverstraw, where he continued in practice until his death, which occurred Jan. 25, 1875, at the age of 74 years. He was buried in his native town. Dr. Pratt received a more thorough education than a majority of physicians in his day had an opportunity of obtaining and was therefore better fitted to serve the public in the capacity of his profession. He soon took a successful standing, and for years it is said no other physician could obtain a foothold in his neighborhood. In 1848 he met with a severe accident, sustaining a fracture of the skull which nearly cost him his life. The imperfect recovery from this injury left him in a condition of impaired health, which was progressive, and gradually resulted in lessened ability to work, and consequently in a narrowing of his practice.

He was a genial, witty man, with a warm heart for everyone in trouble; with a kind word or a joking remark his presence often served to lighten the cares and distresses of his patients. He was zealous in his attachment to his profession. His memory is still preserved among the people among whom he labored so long and well. The name of Dr. Govan seems to connect the link of the older generation of physicians with the younger in the northern part of the county. Dr. William Govan was born in Barnet, Vt., August 12th, 1818. His father was a Presbyterian minister who came from Glasgow, Scotland, about 1815, to Northern New England. He held pastorates in various towns in Vermont, New Hampshire and Massachusetts. Young Govan entered Kimball Union Academy, Meriden, N. H., at the age of sixteen, and was prepared for college; he entered Dartmouth College in 1835 and graduated in 1839. In 1840 he began the study of medicine, and in 1843 received a license to practice. In 1844 he received the degree of A. M. from Dartmouth College, and in 1854 he received the degree of M. D.

from the New York Medical College. In 1843 Dr. Govan commenced the practice of medicine in Stony Point, where he continued until his death. He also conducted a drug store. In 1858 he became a permanent member of the Medical Society of the State of New York, and in 1860 he was elected a permanent member of the American Medical Association. In 1872 he became a fellow of the American Academy of Medicine. In 1881 he was chosen vice president of the Medical Society of the State of New York; in 1844 he became a fellow of the New York State Medical Association. He was secretary of the Rockland County Medical Society for twenty-five years, and also was a coroner of Rockland county for twenty years. Dr. Govan was an active citizen and was interested in political, educational and religious affairs. In politics he was a Democrat, in religion a Presbyterian until late in life, when he joined the Episcopal Church. He married, in 1845, Miss Lucia J. Mitchell, of Peekskill. Of this union two sons and one daughter were born. Dr. Govan's death occurred March 22, 1894, at the age of 74 years. His widow, one daughter and one son survive him. His body was interred with Masonic honors.

The only physicians practicing in Stony Point during the life time of Dr. Govan until the last five years of his life were the Dr. Garrisons, father and son, who removed from Brooklyn, N. Y., to Stony Point in the year 1862. The elder, Dr. Nelson A. Garrison, of Stony Point, was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., and practiced medicine there for many years. In 1862 he removed to Stony Point, where he practiced until his death, which occurred on Jan. 26, 1872, at the age of 73 years. He was succeeded in his practice by his son, Dr. N. A. Garrison. The senior Dr. Garrison possessed much skill as a physician and enjoyed the confidence of his patrons.

Dr. Nelson A. Garrison, Jr., of Stony Point, who was an only child, and bore his father's name, was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., August 19, 1838. Dr. Garrison received his early education in the schools of his native city, and when fitted to enter upon the study of medicine entered the Medical Department of the University of New York, from which he graduated with honor in 1858. He afterwards pursued a post graduate course in the same institution, and then entered upon the practice of medicine in his home neighborhood in his native city. He soon became connected with the Long Island College Hospital. In 1862 the family removed to Stony

Point, where soon afterwards the senior Dr. Garrison died. Dr. Garrison continued in practice until his death, which occurred in August, 1893, at the age of 55 years. He was married November 21st, 1865, to Miss Barbara Suffern, granddaughter of the late John H. Suffern, and who survives her husband. Dr. Garrison was well and favorably known as a physician, a man and a citizen. His patients were his loyal friends. The poor found in Dr. Garrison a friend in need, who knew how to distribute alms without giving offense. To many a poor family his reply when asked for a bill was, "You need it more than I." Strong and rugged in physique, cheerful in his demeanor, pleasant and affable to all, his sudden death came as a surprise and a loss to the community where he had lived so long, and whose death was lamented by all.

Dr. John Heron Sullivan, of Haverstraw, was born in the county of Cork, Ireland, July 12th, 1824, of very respectable parentage, his father being a land-owner. His father's and mother's names were respectively Cornelius and Mary Sullivan. Young Sullivan received an excellent education, graduating in Arts at Trinity College, Dublin. He subsequently pursued his studies in Paris, under the direction of the celebrated Cruveilhier. He came to the United States during the earlier part of the Mexican War and enlisted in the U. S. army, the life and excitement of a military campaign having attractions for him at that early period of his career. He showed courage at the Battle of Chapultepec, and was with General Scott when he entered the City of Mexico. He had already given some attention to medicine before his emigration to the United States, but after his return from the Mexican War he again turned his attention to the medical profession and entered the Philadelphia College of Medicine, where he graduated in 1853. He married Miss Ophelia Marsland, of Ossining, N. Y. He chose the south for his field of work and settled in Warthen, Washington county, Georgia, where he built up an excellent practice and was highly respected throughout that region. Here he was happily and thoroughly at work when the dark, ominous clouds of the Civil War broke over them. Dr. Sullivan was contented to cultivate his farm, practice his profession and see his family grow up around him in love and affection, and although death had entered their home and taken away two of his children, who were buried in Southern soil, yet it had made firmer his attachment to his Southern home, as he had both prospered and suffered there. But the ominous sounds of an impending conflict were reverberating through the

land and stirred all men to zealous activity as their minds were fed upon the threatened danger to property and homes. The people of neither section of the country understood each other, nor could the people of one section put themselves in the place of those of the other. The morality of slavery on the one side and the vital necessity of slavery to the prosperity of the south upon the other could on neither side be discussed with equanimity. Dr. Sullivan and his family, though not to "manor born," could sympathize with their neighbors and friends and understand their situation, but as he had never become a slave holder (he hired the colored man instead of buying him) so he had never become a "true Southerner;" and so in spite of his recognized professional skill and neighboring friendships, he became a "marked man." Dr. Sullivan had no desire to interest himself in politics, nor to enter the Southern army. He was closely watched and soon some of his hot-headed neighbors brought his case to the attention of the Vigilance Committee, on a charge of treason, where had it not been for some loyal friends, he would have been severely dealt with. Though his case had been postponed through the influence of personal friends for a time, to give him an opportunity to join their cause, yet the inevitable charge of treason was formulated against him, and his case was placed on the calendar for the next session of the county court soon to be held at the County Court House. Here his friends again came to his rescue, even after he had told them that he could never trail the flag of his country in the dust after fighting under its folds. A good neighbor who had early received information of the proposed arrest of Dr. Sullivan hastened to him and after assuring himself of the utmost privacy, told him of his contemplated arrest and advised him to escape immediately. Dr. Sullivan acted upon this advice and went to Savannah, where he consulted a good friend, Colonel Hardee, a brother of General Hardee of the Confederate army. The Colonel gave him a pass to his brother, then at Nashville, Tenn., who helped the escaping Unionist into the Union lines. Six weeks afterwards friends of the doctor enabled his wife and children to make their way by devious routes to the Union army in Kentucky and so on to their Northern home. In his flight from the Confederacy, Dr. Sullivan lost all his property. Real estate, cotton, bills receivable, everything was left behind and under various pretexts confiscated. After returning North, Dr. Sullivan enlisted in the Union army and was ap-

pointed by Gov. Seymour of New York, First Assistant Surgeon to the Third N. Y. State Vol. Infantry and held this post until the close of the war. In his army service Dr. Sullivan had charge of large general hospitals. After the regiment was disbanded Dr. Sullivan came to Haverstraw, in April, 1866, and entered upon the practice of medicine, where he continued until his death, which occurred November 7, 1879, at the age of 54 years. His widow and seven daughters survive him. Dr. Sullivan had an extensive practice covering a large area. His counsel was eagerly sought, his clear, penetrating mind, excellent training and large medical experience enabled him to bring to the bedside a large knowledge of his profession in the diagnosis and treatment of the sick. Thus he was a successful physician and his memory is still fresh among those who had received of his skill and kindness. Dr. Sullivan was a scholarly man, and delighted to spend his spare moments in the reading of classic authors.

Dr. William S. House, of Haverstraw, a son of Garrett O. House, a descendant of an old Rockland county family, was born in Clarkstown, May 15, 1837. In early childhood his father removed to New York city, where the children received a good public school education. When Dr. House had received his preliminary education he entered the New York Medical College as a medical student, and in due course graduated in 1858 as a physician. He immediately settled in Spring Valley, where he resided ten years, making many friends and building up a reputation as a skillful physician. Feeling that a wider sphere of work awaited him in Haverstraw, he removed thither, where he resided until death, which occurred on January 26th, 1900. As a physician he won the confidence of the community. He was faithful and untiring in his ministrations upon the sick, firm in his opinion and a trusted counselor. Dr. House was twice married, his first wife dying shortly after marriage. He married for his second wife Miss Griffin, who with two sons and a daughter survive him.

Another physician of whom only the older inhabitants have a clear remembrance is Dr. John Perdue, of Haverstraw, a graduate of the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, Pa., who came to Haverstraw in 1843. In 1850 he removed to Pennsylvania, but did not remain long and returned to Haverstraw, where he continued in practice until his death. He was a genial man and active in his work. He was of an inquiring turn of mind, seeking if possible to discover the antecedent

cause of every event. This anecdote is related of him, which is said to be characteristic: One day Dr. Perdue had the misfortune to fall into a cistern partly filled with water, which while it was not sufficiently deep to endanger his life, made his situation an extremely uncomfortable one. His neighbors came rapidly to his rescue and quickly made the necessary arrangements to extract the Doctor from his unpleasant predicament, but first he insisted upon giving his friends a detailed account of the accident. The Doctor's friends were more practical than he and told him that they would first get him out of the cistern, and then he could explain the accident to his heart's content. Dr. Perdue had a large practice, and was regarded as a safe and trustworthy counsellor. He was a local preacher in the Methodist Church.

Dr. Herbert B. Chambre, of Haverstraw, was born in London, Eng., in 1833, his father being an Episcopal clergyman. In the prosecution of his studies he obtained a situation in Guy's Hospital, under the tuition of Prof. Quain. He graduated with honors, having received the Physician's Certificate of Guy's Hospital on examination. After the death of his father, the family emigrated to the United States, going first to Indiana, where they remained for a short time only, and then removed to Brooklyn, N. Y., where Dr. Chambre first entered upon the practice of medicine. Soon afterwards he had as a patient a lady belonging in Stony Point, who was so well pleased with his treatment that her family induced him to settle in Rockland county. He came finally to Haverstraw, where he bought a drug store, which he carried on in connection with his practice. The work necessary to carry on both interests proving too great, he sold out the drug store and removed to Dover, N. J., where he entered upon a less exacting work. Soon afterward he enlisted in the Fourteenth New Jersey Vol. Inf., and was made a surgeon of the regiment. In the performance of his duties he received a sunstroke which so impaired his health that he was compelled to ask for his discharge from service. He returned to Dover, where he remained for some time, and when sufficiently recuperated to warrant the undertaking of the practice of his profession, he removed again to Haverstraw, where he continued in practice until his death, which occurred August 13, 1881. He was buried with Masonic ceremonies. Dr. Chambre enjoyed the confidence of the community and was esteemed an excellent physician.



N. B. BAYLEY, M.D.

Dr. Henry Hasbrouck House, of Rockland Lake, was born at Pearl River, Rockland county, April 1st, 1842. He was the second son of Capt. Garret O. House and Elizabeth (Hasbrouck) House, and a younger brother of Dr. William S. House, of Haverstraw, and cousin of Dr. Moses C. Hasbrouck, of Nyack. At an early age his parents moved to New York city, where they remained for a short period only, when they returned to Nyack, where he attended school until his thirteenth year, when his father, who was captain of the steamboat Isaac P. Smith, removed to Haverstraw, where his education was continued in the Mountain Institution, then conducted by Prof. Lewis B. Hardecastle, and later in the Claverick Institute and Rutherford's Institute at Nyack. Taking up the study of medicine, he entered the University Medical College, N. Y., and graduated in 1863. Dr. House, immediately upon his graduation, opened an office in Englewood, N. J., where he remained a few years. He then removed to New City, Rockland county, staying a few months, and then to Haverstraw, where he opened a drug store, which he carried on only a short time, removing in 1873 to Rockland Lake, which remained his field of labor until his death. Dr. House was surgeon for the West Shore R. R. and in the discharge of his duties received an injury which terminated fatally. Dr. House was greatly interested in matters pertaining to the interests of the community in which he lived. He merited the esteem of his friends and acquaintances. He was for many years Postmaster of Rockland Lake and also a member of the Board of Education and took a deep interest in educational matters. He married in 1863 Miss Pamela Ver Valen, daughter of Richard Ver Valen, Esq., of Haverstraw. His death occurred April 1st, 1896, on his 54th birthday. He is survived by his widow and two sons.

Of the eclectic physicians in this county none were held in higher esteem than Dr. Reuben H. Owen, who spent his life in the practice of his profession in Haverstraw. Dr. Owen was born in Orange county July 11, 1819. His early education was obtained by his own efforts. He was a poor boy who worked in the summer time in the brickyards to obtain means for a livelihood and to assist in supporting his father's family. He had a natural bent towards the study of medicine which was fostered by his father's relatives. His father was a school teacher and a man of more than ordinary intelligence, with a love for the study of nature. Dr. Owen had a hard struggle to carry out his plans to fit him-

self for his life work, but by diligence he was enabled as the result of his summer's work to pursue his studies during the winter months. He entered the New York Eclectic Medical College, where he graduated in 1842. For a time he practiced in New York. He then removed to Haverstraw, where he spent his entire life, a period of forty years. Dr. Owen was reputed a safe, cautious, physician, and always ready to give his services to the poor as readily as to the rich. To relieve the distress of the suffering was to him a duty that was not tinged with any sense of gain. He was of a deeply religious turn of mind and zealous in his church, of which he was one of its most active and enthusiastic worshippers. Dr. Owen was prominent in the Eclectic School of Medicine in this State. He was president of the Eclectic State Medical Society for some years, and also a delegate to the National Eclectic Medical Association the year of his death. Dr. Owen enlisted during the Civil War in the 17th Regiment, New York State National Guard, serving only a few months. He was surgeon to the Edward Pye Post, G. A. R., until his death. In 1842 Dr. Owen married Miss Jane Abrams, of Newburgh, N. Y. His death occurred Jan. 11, 1884. His funeral was held in the Methodist Church, Haverstraw, under the auspices of the Edward Pye Post, G. A. R., and Stony Point Lodge No. 313, F. and A. M., both of which organizations he was a member.

Of the physicians whose memory remains undimmed among the people with whom he spent his whole professional life the name of Spencer Stephen Sloat stands prominent. He descended from an old line of Rockland county families in the southeastern part of the county, seeing first the light of day at Sloatsburg, N. Y., April, 1827. His parents were Stephen Sloat and Catherine Ward Sloat. Young Sloat received an excellent education in the public schools and Academy and afterwards entered upon the study of medicine in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, receiving his diploma from that institution in 1850. Soon after graduation Dr. Sloat began the practice of medicine in Haverstraw, in association with Dr. C. H. Austin, a prominent practitioner, who soon retired from practice. Dr. Sloat had many of the qualities which are essential to a physician's success. In addition to a genial disposition and the ability to see quickly and to prescribe a speedy remedy, he possessed a certain magnetism which drew men to him. Dr. Sloat always had an extensive practice. He enlisted in the Civil War

and was appointed surgeon to the 95th N. Y. State Vol. Inf., which position he held three years. He was a member of the Edward Pye Post, G. A. R. In addition to his professional acquirements, Dr. Sloat was a fine musician and played the organ in the Presbyterian Church of Haverstraw for many years. Dr. Sloat practiced medicine in Haverstraw and vicinity for thirty years and was probably more intimately known than any other physician in the northeastern portion of Rockland county. Dr. Sloat's death occurred Nov. 30, 1880, at the age of 53 years. The cause of death was apoplexy, of which he had had premonitions for several years. Dr. Sloat was buried from the Central Presbyterian Church, the Rev. Dr. Amasa S. Freeman preaching the funeral sermon. The Edward Pye Post, G. A. R., had charge of the funeral. Dr. Sloat married Miss Mary Perkins about 1850. His widow, one son, Mr. Charles Sloat, druggist, of Haverstraw, and two daughters survive, one, the eldest, marrying Mr. Richard W. Oldfield, of Haverstraw.

Dr. Stephen William Allen, born in Columbia county, N. Y., came to Haverstraw and practiced medicine for a period of twenty-five years. He belonged to the Homeopathic school, but was not a narrow—nor can it be said, scarcely a sectarian physician, as he was professionally on amicable terms with the physicians of his neighborhood. Dr. Allen was kind to the poor, never asking compensation for his services whenever he saw that the payment of a fee would be a hardship to the patient. That Dr. Allen's professional friendship was considered worth having by many of the physicians of his vicinity is evident from the numerous charges for violation of the "Code of Ethics" preferred by the Rockland County Medical Society against several of its members for professional consultations with him. The "Code of Ethics" of the old physicians forbade any member of the society to consult with a homeopathic or sectarian physician. All this seems puerile and we are glad to say is an obsolete custom in medical affairs. Dr. Allen enlisted in the Civil War in the 17th Regiment, New York State National Guard. Dr. Allen had a large practice and was considered a skillful physician. To the poor he was indeed a physician in need. Dr. Allen died August 2, 1884, aged 62 years. His illness continued for several months, during this time he received many testimonials of kindness from all the neighboring physicians. He was twice married. His widow, who was Miss Carrie A. Owaram, survives him.

A young physician whose ability promised a skillful practitioner was Dr. Adolphus Howland Wood, of Tompkins Cove (Stony Point). He was of the "manor born," a native of the vicinity where he lived and where he commenced his life's work. Dr. Wood was born August 30, 1876. He received his education at the Haverstraw public school and after graduating from this school he pursued a course in commercial studies at Packard's Business College, New York. But a commercial life was not to be his final choice, so accordingly he entered upon a course of medical studies in Bellevue Hospital Medical College, entering in September, 1893, and graduating in March, 1897. He settled in the practice of medicine at Tompkins Cove Sept., 1897, and although much younger than physicians usually are when entering upon the practice of their profession, Dr. Wood immediately took a good position as a physician in the community, and was winning the confidence of his neighbors and friends when he was suddenly stricken with meningitis, to which he succumbed, after a short illness, Feb. 21st, 1899. The medical profession attended the funeral. He was unmarried and is survived by his mother and grandfather.

The pioneer physician of the southwestern section of the county, called in the former times by the general name of Hemstead, and later Ramapo, was Dr. Zebadee Wood. In the year of 1810 the establishments for the manufacture of iron and cotton founded by the Pierson Brothers had spread thrift and prosperity in this vicinity and increased the growth of the village of Ramapo to a population of 700 persons, and benefited the farmers in a circuit of many miles by obtaining a good paying market for grain and other farm products. At this time (1810) the proprietors of these works, impressed with the necessity and propriety of having a resident physician in the place, wrote to Dr. Zebadee Wood, with whose worth and capabilities they were no doubt well acquainted, and solicited him to locate there, assuring him that if the income from his practice did not amount to \$600 per year, they would make up the deficiency. He accordingly came, and as he was born in 1775 he must have been a young man in the prime of life at the age of 35 years. He then began a life of arduous toil, not only in the village, but for many long miles in all directions. He is described by all who remember him as a rather small man and very fine looking, and as he traveled on his professional calls, mounted on his cantering horse, wrapped up in cloak

and cap, his long silken and curly locks dangling over his shoulders, with capacious saddle-bags fastened to the back of his saddle, and no doubt a pair of bright lances in his vest pocket to draw rivulets of blood, he presented an unique, pleasant and picturesque figure.

He remained in this place for thirty-five years, passing all the time in unwearied toil, ready and prompt to answer any call, and do all he could for the sick and suffering in the community, and thus lived and labored without a stain on his character. In the year 1845, when he had reached the age of seventy years, no doubt becoming tired and unable to continue this hard work, he came into the possession of a large farm about two miles east of Suffern, where he removed and lived more at ease and in the enjoyment of rural felicity, and secured a condition in life named by Cicero "*Otium cum dignitate*," leisure and dignity, which should be the lot and reward of every aged physician. He still continued a moderate practice among his friends and neighbors until old age and infirmity forced him to relinquish his labors. So he grew old and helpless and died in January, 1857, in his eighty-second year, and is buried in the cemetery at Ramapo, N. Y., and has the very appropriate epitaph on his monument, "He rests from his labors."

When Dr. Wood left Ramapo, in 1845, Dr. Daniel L. Reeves took his place. He was then a young unmarried man, well educated and very sociable, and not being forced by necessity to labor hard to support a family, was inclined to be somewhat negligent in his attention to professional work. He remained until 1851, when he removed to Jersey City, N. J., where he continued for the remainder of his life, a successful and skillful surgeon and physician.

He was succeeded here by a Dr. Tuttle, who resided near Suffern, but he remained only a year or two, not long enough to make a record. He left and went to Illinois to practice. After him came Dr. Gerrard B. Hammond, who was reared and probably born in Westchester county, N. Y., near White Plains. He commenced his professional life for a short time as a naval surgeon, but relinquishing it, came to Rockland county and located first at Viola, but soon after removed to Suffern. He was a man of ability and energy, and held the confidence of the community.

He left in 1855, when he was succeeded by Dr. A. S. Zabriskie, a worthy successor of Dr. Wood, and who is yet somewhat in practice,

though dividing his time in service to the twin divinities, Aesculapius and Ceres. Dr. Hammond after leaving Suffern, went to Spring Valley, and practiced there until his death, which occurred in 1876, at the age of forty-eight years.

Some time in the earlier part of the "fifties" Dr. Jacob S. Wigton, who was a graduate of the Medical Department of the University of New York, settled in Monsey and built up a large practice. In the latter part of his life he removed to Spring Valley, where he still retained his former patrons in his earlier fields of practice in the county. He died Sept. 11, 1888, being sixty years of age. He was a successful and highly respected practitioner, honest and sincere in all his relations towards his fellow men.

In a country neighborhood a few miles south of Spring Valley called in former days Scotland Hills, lived and died Dr. John Demarest, a very excellent, kind and sympathetic man, who labored in that community many years, probably his entire span of activity, and was no doubt deservedly regarded by all the people in his community as their beloved physician. He died October 8th, 1872, seventy-three years of age. Dr. Demarest was a graduate of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York.

At Hempstead, near the Brick Church, lived Dr. Daniel Lake, who had a large practice throughout the surrounding country. Dr. Lake was a graduate of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York, of the class of 1828. Dr. Lake pursued dual occupations, that of an agriculturalist and at the same time a practitioner of medicine, not an unusual combination of vocations in the rural districts in former days. He was a successful and highly respected man and merited the esteem of his neighbors and clientage. He was President of the Rockland County Medical Society in 1872. He died Sept. 3, 1883, aged eighty years, in the ripeness and fullness of a well spent life.

Dr. James J. Stephens, a well known physician of Tappan in the latter half of the nineteenth century was of the "manor born." His lineage is a clear line from Jan Stephens and Lysbeth Lucas, who were married in New York, Oct. 4th, 1673, the former of whom is believed to have been the son of "Jan Stephensen, schoolmaster," entered on the New York records as having two children, Jan and Paulyntic, baptized respectively 15th November, 1643, and 1st July, 1646. After-

wards the family name Stevensen (or son) was abbreviated to Stephens. Jan Stephens and his wife, Lysbeth Lucas, had six children. The sixth child, named Stephen, was born July 2, 1685. Stephen was the father of Roelof Stephens, born not later than 1721. Roelof married Marytie (or Mensje) Campbell, and settled in Rockland county. Eight children were the issue of this union. The baptism of four are recorded in Tappan and four in Clarkstown. The seventh child, William, was born July 7th, 1757. William married Catrina Mannel (or Mennel), whose parents lived at the Pond (Rockland Lake). They had five children. The second, Johannes, born March 7th, 1784, near New City, married Margaret House; of this union eleven children were born, James J., the subject of this sketch, who was born July 12, 1822, being the ninth. (For a more detailed genealogical record see History of Rockland County by Rev. David Cole, D. D.). The foundations of the education of young Stephens were laid in the district school. Later he availed himself of better advantages, industriously pursuing the higher studies which led to his profession. At an early age he taught school and continued in this avocation till he entered on a preparatory course preliminary to his medical studies, which were begun under the preceptorship of Dr. R. W. Stevensen, of Hackensack, N. J., and in 1844 entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, from which he graduated in 1846. Subsequently he spent two winters in Bellevue Hospital. After practicing in the city for one year, he removed (1847) to Tappan, where he began his practice, and continued without interruption until his death, a space of fifty-one years. His practice extended over those parts of Rockland and Bergen counties contiguous to Tappan. Dr. Stephens was well and favorably known; though eccentric in many ways, he had a kindly heart and was much sought for his skill. If he neglected personal adornment it was to show to his patients that the man and not the clothes should be the chief characteristic of a physician. Dr. Stevens' death occurred March 3rd, 1898, at the age of 76 years. The cause of death was apoplexy. He was twice married. His first wife, Caroline Elizabeth, daughter of Rev. Isaac Cole, died Sept. 6th, 1863, leaving two daughters. His widow, Catherine Josephine Van Veghten, of Waterford, N. Y., survives.

Among the native physicians of Rockland county who reached a long span of life, Dr. Isaac C. Haring is numbered as one of the more

pre-eminent. Dr. Haring was born near Nanuet, in this county, Aug. 20, 1828. His parents were Sophia Demarest and Cornelius J. Haring. He received his education in the public schools of Nanuet, and when fitted for the study of medicine entered the Medical School of the New York University, from which he graduated in 1850. He began his medical studies under the preceptorship of Dr. Moses C. Hasbrouck, and after graduation remained in his office for five years, practicing under the guidance of a master hand. He then removed to Nanuet and Pearl River, where he practiced from 1850 to 1855, when he removed to New City, where he remained until 1865; he then removed to Clarkstown or West Nyack, where he practiced until his death, which occurred April 16th, 1900, at the age of 72 years. Dr. Haring was regarded as a good counsellor and skillful in his profession. His professional life reached the span of fifty years. During this period how numerous have been the instances when his step was waited for, and how much gladness has there been when relief and health were again promised to weary sufferers and watchers. No wonder he is called "the beloved physician."

Of the influence of Dr. M. C. Hasbrouck in the medical profession in this county there is no more conspicuous example than the professional life of Dr. T. Blanche Smith, who grew up under his training. Dr. Thomas Blanche Smith was born Nov. 27, 1835, in Greenbush, or as it is now called, Blauveltville, in this county. His parents were John De Wint Smith and Eleanor C. (Blauvelt) Smith. He was educated in Columbia College, N. Y. His medical career was early initiated, entering the office of Dr. Moses C. Hasbrouck, then practicing in Tappan, with whom he sustained during his entire life the closest relations. Dr. Smith graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1856 and began practice at Middletown, in this county, in conjunction with Dr. Hasbrouck; two years later he removed to Tappan, where he practiced successfully for twelve years. Upon the death of his preceptor and colleague, Dr. Smith removed to Nyack, where he remained, deeply immersed in his professional practice, until his death, which occurred five years later, on April 12th, 1875, at the early age of thirty-nine years. The immediate cause of his death was exposure in inclement weather during a severe fire which occurred in Nyack, where Dr. Smith worked enthusiastically in controlling the conflagration, which induced an attack of pulmonary and pleuritic congestion setting in with such intensity that

in the short space of three days his life was blotted out. At the time of his death Dr. Smith was President of the Village of Nyack. It is not saying too much that owing to his large mental capacity and intimate association with a physician of the integrity and ability of Dr. M. C. Hasbrouck, Dr. Smith could easily stand as among the first physicians in this county. In fact, Dr. Smith was recognized as one of the brightest and ablest men Rockland county has produced. Well trained and well read in medical science and practice, he had clear and concise views at the bedside, which made Dr. Smith a chosen counsellor and advisor. Like his preceptor and predecessor, a high standard of work was his constant effort, and the unity of the profession received from him his untiring solicitude and support. The Medical Society of the county during the lives of Drs. Hasbrouck and Smith reached a higher plane of excellence and usefulness than at any other period of its history, and its influence upon the local profession, which is due largely to these two physicians, has been of incalculable benefit in its results, which can yet be seen in the amicable professional relationship of the physicians of our county, especially in those parts which were more immediately under their constant influence.

During the Civil War Dr. Smith received an appointment as Inspector of the Sanitary Commission, Sept. 1, 1862, made by Surgeon-General William A. Hammond, U. S. A., and also an appointment as examining surgeon; both these commissions lasted to the end of the war. Dr. Smith while at Tappan resided in Washington's Headquarters. His marriage took place December, 1855, to Miss Ellen C. Van Orden, daughter of Frederick Van Orden. To this union there were five children born. Dr. Smith was survived by his widow, one son, W. Parker Smith, of Spring Valley, and four daughters.

Among the large number of physicians who have come to Nyack, built up a practice and secured a reputation for medical acquirements was Dr. George A. Mursiek, who after being mustered out of the army chose this village as his field of work.

George Andrew Mursiek was born in New York city Feb. 26th, 1834. His father, Captain George Andrew Mursiek, who was a native of Boston, was the son of a Venetian. The father's family for at least two generations were residents of Venice, Italy. Dr. Mursiek's father died when the son was a boy four years of age, but his mother, who was

a highly educated and cultivated woman, brought her son up, teaching him herself and gave him an excellent education. When Dr. Mursick was old enough to enter upon a business career he entered a drug store in New York, where he developed a desire for the study of medicine. To fulfil this purpose the young lad entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York city, in 1857, graduating in 1860. Dr. Mursick had a strong preference for surgery and devoted himself to this specialty. When the thunders of civil war reverberated through the country, necessitating on the part of the Government a demand for competent surgeons for the field and hospital, Dr. Mursick responded to the patriotic call and in June, 1863, entered the Union army as acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. A., and was assigned to active hospital duties. For his meritorious services Dr. Mursick was promoted to be surgeon-in-charge of the U. S. Army General Hospital at Duvall's Cliffs, Ark., in Nov., 1864. In the same year he was appointed Medical Purveyor of the Arkansas department of the army, and continued to fill this office until he was mustered out of service, July 27, 1865. He was present at many serious engagements and showed much skill and bravery.

Dr. Mursick was a skillful surgeon and an excellent operator. His surgical training and experience, which were large, made him a valuable counsellor. He was a man of positive opinions, which he frequently expressed in a somewhat brusque manner. This, however, was only a veneering; penetrate it and beneath was found a helpful and considerate man. Nevertheless, it is only fair to say that his positive assertions and brusqueness of manner may have led to the building of a wall which prevented in some degree a closer affiliation with the physicians of his locality, where harmony has been the keynote of professional relationship for a long time, so that any breach in its observance marred the rhythm of good fellowship which had existed under the example of its honored leader.

Dr. Mursick wrote several medical papers of merit, but in local medical affairs his too trenchant pen did not bring him the tribute he desired. Yet there was nothing that looked like warfare. Simply a rivalry, carried on more stiffly than had been the custom in this town. Dr. Mursick's health began to fail several months before his death, the disease being diabetes. Yet he continued, when able, to attend to his practice until a short time before his death, which occurred at his residence on

Renssen street on October 17, 1895, in the 62nd year of his age. He married, May 30, 1872, in Pleasantville, N. Y., Julia, daughter of the Rev. Jacob Washburn, a Methodist clergyman of that town. There were three children by this union, a daughter who died young, two sons, George A. and William W., and the widow, who survives.

Dr. William Gillespie Stevenson was born in Ohio, March, 1838. His family was a scholarly one, his father being a professor in Oberlin College, and his mother a woman of culture and refinement. One of his sisters married President Patton, of Princeton College. Young Stevenson received an excellent education and began the study of medicine under the preceptorship of Dr. Lewis A. Sayre, of New York, between whom there existed a close friendship. After taking two courses of lectures and before his graduation, Dr. Stevenson went to Louisville, Ky., and from thence to Arkansas, where he formed a business partnership with another young man from the same region. Their business undertakings presented flattering prospects for success, when the clouds of internecine strife suddenly loomed before them. Stevenson was a northern man, and although he held himself entirely aloof from political affairs, the fact of his birth and training did not escape the attention of the people in that section of the country, who admitted no neutrality in political matters. Because of his failure to enlist, it was presumed he was opposed to the Southern interests. Under such suspicions he was arrested by the Vigilance Committee and hauled before its sittings on the charge of being an abolitionist, although the charge against him could not be proved, he narrowly escaped lynching at the hands of an infuriated mob. On the conclusion of the farcical trial, he accepted the advice of a friend, who told him to put thirty miles between himself and the town by early dawn of the next day. He immediately directed his way to Memphis, where upon stepping off the boat he was arrested by a policeman and brought before the Vigilance Committee, who already had received information of his arrest and escape on the previous day. The alternative was presented to him of immediate enlistment in the Southern army. He accepted the offer and was directed to the enlisting headquarters, where he enrolled his name in the Second Tennessee Vols., Co. B., and before leaving the building was invested in a soldier's uniform. A little reflection showed him the utter impracticability of any plan of escape, so he made up his mind to do

his duty and await his opportunity. Grasping military tactics with ease, he was soon promoted to a sergeancy, shortly afterwards to a lieutenancy, and in a few months he was appointed aide-de-camp to General Beek-
enridge. In this capacity he passed through the battles of Fort Don-
aldson and Corinth, Shiloh Landing and others. He was wounded at
Shiloh, but after a few days he was ordered to accompany a contingent
of wounded soldiers to Mobile, where for want of sufficient hospital
accommodations, the wounded soldiers were divided into squads and dis-
tributed to various towns, where they were mainly supported by the
women among whom they were quartered. He accompanied the contin-
gent to Selma, Ala., where he was commanded to perform the duties
of a surgeon. As he already had received two courses of medical lectures
in New York, he was considered to be sufficiently competent to be a sur-
geon in the Confederacy, where there was a scarcity of medical men.
Here Dr. Stevenson was pleasantly situated. He was the officer in
charge, but he knew the day of reckoning would soon come when he had
recovered his health and the soldiers under his care had been mustered
out of service or returned to their regiments, when he saw there would
be no way of further escaping service in the rebel army. His strong
desire to get into the Federal lines was an omnipresent one. The whole
length of the frontier line of the rebel army was strongly guarded, yet he
resolved upon making the attempt. So one day he rode out of Selma as
was his custom, but instead of returning, he continued to ride on, meet-
ing with many difficulties and hair-breadth escapes, until finally the Fed-
eral lines were reached, where friends were found who transported him to
his parents and relatives, who had received no communication from him
for more than a year. After recovering from the hardships of his en-
forced service in the rebel army, Dr. Stevenson completed his medical
course at Bellevue Hospital Medical College, graduating in 1865, and
immediately came to Nyack, where he began practice and resided his
whole life. Dr. Stevenson published a book entitled "Thirteen Months
in the Rebel Army," which is a narrative of his personal adventures
during his service, and is a highly interesting and instructive account
of matters in the Confederacy at a period which has not had an abun-
dance of chroniclers. It is written in a vivacious style and will claim
the attention of the reader to its close. A better idea of the condition of
society in the early Confederate days may be obtained from this book
than in many more pretentious ones.

Dr. Stevenson married Mrs. Elsie Hasbrouck, who survives the death of her husband, which occurred Feb. 3rd, 1888, in his 45th year. Dr. Stevenson had a wide circle of acquaintances, and was highly respected. He was skillful in his profession and possessed a competent practice.

Dr. Frank Hasbrouck, a son of Dr. Moses C. Hasbrouck, was born in Middletown, Rockland county, in 1838. As a son of so prominent a physician as his father, he received an education befitting his position. He was educated at Rutgers' College and entered upon the study of medicine under his father's guidance and in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York city, from which he graduated in 1862. He began practice under his father's supervision, and continued until his death, which occurred August 28th, 1866, in the 29th year of his age.

A young physician practicing under the immediate eye of his father seldom has an opportunity of showing what metal he is made of, but there is no reason to suppose that young Dr. Hasbrouck would have acquitted himself otherwise than in a creditable manner. He had already at the time of his death shown himself to be a skillful practitioner. Dr. Hasbrouck married Miss Elsie DePew, of Nyack, who survives.

A descendant of a long line of New England ancestry, Dr. Charles Whipple, one of five children of Stephen and Louisa Edgerton Whipple, was born Oct. 9, 1815, in South Shaftsbury, Vt. His ancestry reaches back through three generations to Captain John Whipple, who it is stated, received a grant of land in Rhode Island in 1660, and with it a license to keep a tavern. He was also contemporary with Roger Williams, and his wife was a daughter of one of the Pilgrim Fathers.

Dr. Whipple was educated at East Bennington and Cheshire, Vt., and subsequently entered Rensselaer Institute, Troy, N. Y., receiving from the latter institution a diploma for civil engineering Oct. 16, 1837. In 1838 he was one of a party to survey a railroad from Utica to Buffalo, N. Y., and westward, but as malarial fever broke up the surveying party, he returned to Vermont. In June, 1840, Dr. Whipple commenced the study of medicine under the tuition of Dr. William Van Duersene, of New Brunswick, N. J., and later entered the Columbian Medical College, Washington, D. C., from which he graduated in 1842, receiving a prize for his Thesis in Chemistry, which was publicly awarded.

Dr. Whipple settled in practice in Haverstraw in the autumn of 1843; he removed to Tarrytown in 1857, where he remained two years,

when he removed to Nyack, Sept., 1859, where he died Nov. 11 of the same year, at the age of 44 years.

Dr. Whipple was the first secretary of the Rockland County Medical Society after its reorganization in 1850. The reputation of Dr. Whipple in the community where he had lived and practiced his profession is that of a skillful and trustworthy practitioner, safe in counsel and respected by his patients and acquaintances. He was an upright citizen, extending the beneficent influence of his life upon those around him.

Dr. Whipple was active in establishing a Baptist Church in Haverstraw, but his efforts subsequently came to naught, as no church of that denomination exists as a reward for his labors.

He married, Sept. 11, 1845, Miss Mary C. Coneclin, daughter of Josiah Coneclin, of Ramapo. A daughter married John Burke, Esq., of Nyack.

Of all the physicians in this county none stood deservedly in higher estimation than the subject of this sketch, which is from the pen of his pupil and friend, Dr. T. Blanche Smith (extracted from the Nyack Journal, Oct. 29, 1870). Moses Cantine Hasbrouck was born at Marbletown, Ulster county, N. Y., Nov. 23rd, 1808. The rudiments of his early education were acquired in a country school, while living and working with his father on the farm. When about seventeen years old he entered a dry goods store in Kingston as a clerk. The employment was not congenial to his tastes and aspirations, and while so engaged he was taken seriously ill and in his delirium begged his parents to keep him from the store. His father decided that he should relinquish his clerkship, and after leaving the store he entered the Greenville Academy. His funds were soon expended here and having gained the elements of a classical education he decided to begin the study of medicine with his uncle, Dr. Matthew DeWitt, Stone Ridge, Ulster county, as his preceptor, a physician who was well known as a man of more than ordinary attainments, of study, integrity and sterling common sense. There can be no doubt that superadded to the counsels of a kind and judicious mother, the example of his preceptor had much to do in moulding the character and nobility of his student, for Dr. Hasbrouck would frequently refer to the acts and precepts of his preceptor in medicine with marked deference and satisfaction. After having complied with the requirements of the law for medical education, he received a license to

practice "physic and surgery" from the Herkimer County Medical Society, April 6th, 1831, and under its warrant removed to this county and practiced for about four years, when he returned and graduated in the Fairfield Medical College in 1835. He was one of the five of the class chosen to read their Theses in public. He returned to Rockland county and practiced a year and then went to New York city, where he met with success, but becoming dissatisfied with city life and practice, after eighteen months' residence returned to this county for the third time and remained without interruption, being a busy practitioner until his death. Probably there never lived a medical man in this county who was better adapted to, and who more zealously prosecuted his work than Dr. Hasbrouck. Having a sound constitution and an intellect of more than ordinary capacity, he did an amount of professional work which to most men would seem impracticable. As he was a busy and acute observer, a ready memorizer and earnestly devoted to his profession, it is easy to understand why his experience was a valuable one, upon which not only his juniors but seniors as well were ever ready to draw, in times when even the self-reliant among them became perplexed and harrassed by anxiety. It was on these occasions—when in consultation with his fellow practitioners—that his manliness and delicate sense of honorable dealing apart from his professional acumen, was observed by all with whom he came in contact. Having entered this county when the medical society was about broken up and the few last bonds of courtesy and fairness were ruptured, his naturally sensitive nature made him keenly feel the attempt made by the older practitioners to crush out his slowly but steadily rising reputation. To one, Dr. Cornelison, he often remarked he always gave credit for his uprightness, seemed to be the only one willing to give him a living chance for advancement, and this chance consisted on the one hand of exposure to the family of any blunders which in Dr. Cornelison's opinion he had made, but when on the other hand the older doctor considered his practice judicious, he would invariably, freely and encouragingly approve of Dr. Hasbrouck's advice and prescription in presence of all. The pressure of this bitter and unbecoming professional strife in our county during Dr. Hasbrouck's early life led him years afterwards to aim at the restoration of harmonious and dignified intercourse between the medical men of this county, and it was mainly through his exertions and personal influence that the Medi-

cal Society of our county was reorganized and made the medium of reconciliation and professional advancement among the medical men. Up to the date of his illness he unceasingly labored to foster and sustain the unanimity and usefulness of this organization and with corresponding earnestness deprecated and rebuked every act and actor designedly aiming at professional discordance.

Dr. Hasbrouck was always thoroughly interested in medical progress, though his logical mind and resolute opposition to all attempts at trifling with human life when threatened by disease, made him less ready to accept and act upon novel views and theories trumpeted forth as progressive, than were those who promptly adopted them and who were equally ready to pronounce him "behind the times." In this, however, many were deceived, probably on account of his retiring and unpretending manner, for no man in our county took greater pains to keep himself informed in medicine than Dr. Hasbrouck, and none of us, had we been called upon, would have surpassed him in medical and surgical knowledge and skill in a competitive examination. To gain a reputation within the profession where he always felt it to be most honorable and enduring was his great aim, and in his intercourse with younger members of the profession he advised every one to keep this object steadfastly before him as the goal of an honorable professional reputation.

An appeal to the opinions of his peers in medicine throughout New York city and State, where he was thoroughly known, will attest how well he merited the elevated position accorded him, and how honorably he attained a professional reputation so worthy of emulation by all medical men.

A generation has passed since the above was penned, but if there is any sincerity in the testimony in the tributes so affectionately paid to Dr. Hasbrouck's memory, then truly "he lives enshrined in the hearts" of those who knew him so well, and in their successors as well. That his influence upon the medical profession was far reaching is evident at the present time, and although a large majority of those who were contemporary with him have passed away, yet their successors seem to be actuated by the same spirit of unanimity and rectitude in their professional relationships as was manifested when the living example was here to enforce this principle of rightness by actual precepts.



C. W. Huston, U. S.

It is not only among the medical profession that his memory lives, but it is also among those who have been the recipients of his service in some of their relationships that these expressions of esteem are frequently heard and of these there have been many. Probably there is scarcely a well known family within a radius of ten or fifteen miles of his home which has not at some time sought his services, and often in the direst extremity, and he never failed them. Thus Dr. Hasbrouck became known from stem to stern of Rockland county and beyond its borders. Dr. Hasbrouck seems to have been one of those men born with the latent "talent" of the physician within him. The cultivation of this "talent," health, strength and good cheer, made him the "beloved physician." Dr. Hasbrouck's death occurred Oct. 28th, 1870. He was 62 years old.

Among the older physicians of the last quarter of the century who was well known in the southern part of the county was Dr. Charles H. Masten, who was born in Odelltown, Province of Quebec, Canada, Aug. 2nd, 1839, his parents being Cornelius and Isabel Masten. He received his education at Clarenceville Academy, Canada, and at Fort Edward Institute, New York., and subsequently taught school in Canada. Afterwards he engaged in the study of medicine and came to New York city and entered Bellevue Hospital Medical College, graduating in due course in 1867. Immediately after graduating Dr. Masten came to Rockland county and opened an office in Sparkill with the late Dr. T. Blanche Smith. Both of these physicians were skillful in their profession and met with such marked success that soon a large practice was obtained. Three or four years later Dr. Smith moved to Nyack, while Dr. Masten remained and continued in practice in the neighborhood of Tappan and Sparkill for thirty-three years. A couple of years previous to his death he removed to Nyack, where he hoped to obtain leisure and relief from arduous work, but he was stricken with pneumonia and died May 1st, 1902, in the 63rd year of his age.

Dr. Masten was a skillful physician, wise in judgment, clear and comprehensive in his opinions. He possessed the confidence of his clientage, who were spread over a large territory. He possessed a warm sympathy for his patients, tender and gentle in his manner, so that his presence in the sick room endeared him to all who came in contact with him. All who knew Dr. Masten were his friends. Failing somewhat in vigor, Dr. Masten concluded to retire from practice and took a pleas-

ant home in Nyack, here his patients still followed him, and he was compelled to a life of considerable activity until his fatal illness. By choice he frequently visited the Nyack Hospital, where he was one of the consulting physicians, and freely gave his services for its benefit.

Dr. Masten was never married. He acquired a considerable competence for a physician, and bequeathed a large portion of his estate to the Nyack Hospital, which erected a large and much needed addition to this useful institution.

There have been first and last a number of physicians who have settled in this county in the practice of medicine, and who for various reasons have never secured a foothold or made a lasting reputation. Some died, others moved away, or partially or entirely ceased to practice. Some of these deserve a little notice. Some years ago Dr. Henry W. Riesberg, a native of Austria, and a graduate of the New York Medical College, practiced in Haverstraw. He has left behind him the reputation of a skillful man.

A physician by the name of Daniel F. Wemple is remembered, who was a graduate of the University Medical College, New York city, in 1879, and who practiced a few years in Haverstraw, and then removed to Kansas, where he has since died.

Another physician of excellent repute who lived in Haverstraw from 1835 to 1850, and perhaps longer, was Dr. Caleb H. Austen, who came from Lenox, Mass. He was a graduate of Yale College (Medical Department). He married Miss Lois Patterson, a sister to the wife of Elisha Peck, Esq., of Sansomdale. He removed to New Haven, Conn., where he has since died. He was a skillful physician and a scholarly man, and numbered among his patients the wealthy and cultivated people of the community.

Dr. Lucius D. Isham, a graduate of the Medical Department of Yale College in 1849, practiced for several years in Nanuet. He came from Tolland county, Conn., and was introduced here by his friend from the same county, Mr. David B. Loomis, principal of the Haverstraw Public School at that time. Dr. Isham, after several years' practice, returned to his native State. He was an excellent physician, possessed of a good mind, and actuated by a high moral principle.

Dr. Tallman, who lived north of the English Church, practiced there for many years and was considered a skillful physician and did much active work in that vicinity. There is no record of his death.

Dr. G. A. Lockwood, who practiced for a time in Ramapo, died there May 21, 1881, aged thirty-nine years. He is well spoken of both as a citizen and physician.

Dr. Hardenburg Van Houten, a native of Rockland county, taught school in his native town for some time, but having more ambitious desires than school teaching, studied medicine in the New York Eclectic Medical College, from which he graduated in 1883. He practiced several years in Haverstraw, then moving to New City, practiced there for two or three years, when he returned to Haverstraw, where he died in 1898, aged 48 years.

Dr. Elmer E. Lansing, a graduate of the Albany Medical College, practiced a few years in Haverstraw. His first field of labor was Cairo, Egypt, to which place he returned and subsequently died, leaving a widow and two children. Dr. Lansing was skillful in his profession and of scholarly tastes.

Dr. George B. Swift practiced for some years in Nyack. He was a graduate of Harvard Medical College. He was an elderly man when he located in Nyack, and after a few years residence there died. He was an estimable citizen and was held in equally good repute as a physician.

There lived in Piermont for a number of years two Drs. Hopson's, father and son. Dr. James A. Hopson practiced there for some years, until his death, when he was succeeded by his son, Dr. Ed. Hopson, who practiced for a few years, then removed to one of the Western States. They are pleasantly spoken of.

Among the physicians who were indigenous to this county was Dr. Charles H. Ten Eyck, who was born in Nyack about 1851. He received his early education in the public schools of his native town. He then studied with the late Prof. Christopher Rutherford with the intention of becoming a Methodist clergyman, and had received a license to preach, but finding the ministry unsuitable to his aspirations, he concluded to study medicine, and for this purpose entered the office of Dr. T. Blanche Smith, as his preceptor. In due course he entered the College of Physicians, New York city, and graduated in 1874. He entered upon the practice of medicine at Nyack, which he continued for a time, when he removed to New York city. Dr. Ten Eyck is credited with attending in confinement the first Chinese woman delivered of a child in New York city. In 1894 or 5, his health becoming impaired, he

returned to Nyack where he died in the early months of 1900, at the age of 49 years. Dr. Ten Eyck was a pleasant gentleman, credited with skill in his profession, and won the confidence of his patients.

In the third decade of the nineteenth century there practiced in Haverstraw a Dr. Lee for a time; also a Dr. Lapham, who had lost an arm. The latter physician belonged to the Eclectic school of medicine.

There lived for many years in Nyack Dr. Benjamin Davidson, who died Feb. 25th, 1886, in the sixty-third year of his age. Dr. Davidson was a gentleman highly respected by all who knew him. His kindly and cheering disposition encircled him with many friends. His skill as a physician and solicitude for his patients are remembered by many who have been the recipients of his services.

At the present writing (1902) Rockland county has within its borders thirty-five physicians. A brief notice so far as possible of the present medical population will be of interest.

Dr. George A. Leitner, of Piermont, was born in his native village Sept. 14, 1865. He was a son of John and Christina Leitner, and received his education at the public schools of Piermont and at St. John's College, Fordham, where he received in due course the degrees of A. B. A. M. He graduated in medicine from Bellevue Hospital Medical College March 12th, 1888. His service as interne in St. Francis' Hospital in New York city extended during the years of 1888 and 1889. He is attending physician to St. Joseph's Asylum, Blauvelt, N. Y.; St. Agnes' Asylum, Sparkill, N. Y., and attending physician and surgeon to the Nyack Hospital. Dr. Leitner has practiced in Piermont and vicinity since January, 1890. He was elected coroner in 1892 and has been Health Officer of Orangetown since 1891. He is a member of the Rockland County and State Medical Associations and American Medical Association. He married, in 1894, Miss Maude Carvillo, of Grand View, and three children have been born, Charles, Bertrand and Elizabeth.

Dr. Jacob Outwater Polhemus, the oldest physician of Nyack, was born at Clarkstown, 1834, son of Dr. John and Eliza Outwater Polhemus. He received his early education in the Academy at Tappan and subsequently under the instruction of Rev. Dr. Penny, of Nyack. He was afterward sent to the Irving Institute at Tarrytown for two years and then to Rutgers' College, where he graduated in 1854. Dr. Polhemus began the study of medicine under the guidance of his father and

afterwards entered the office of Dr. Willard Parker, of New York. He graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1859. He began practice in Clarkstown, where he remained five years, and then removed to Nyack, where he has since resided. He is a permanent member of the New York State Medical Society and attending physician and surgeon to the Nyack Hospital. He is a member of the Rockland County and New York State Medical Associations. He married Miss Christina Smith, daughter of Gen. David D. Smith, of Nyack, and they have three sons.

Dr. Gerrit F. Blauvelt, of Nyack, was born in Orangeburg Aug. 1, 1849, son of Cornelius G. and Ann M. Blauvelt. He was educated in New York city, graduating from the College of City of New York, A. B., 1868. In medicine Dr. Blauvelt graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1873, and was house physician of Roosevelt Hospital 1873 and 1874. He practiced in New York city two years and then removed to Nyack, where he has since continued in practice. He was surgeon to the Outdoor Department of New York Hospital 1876 to 1878, and is visiting surgeon and physician to the Nyack Hospital, and is President of the Rockland County Medical Association. Dr. Blauvelt married Miss Julia F. Dederer. There are no children.

Dr. Edward H. Maynard, of Nyack, was born near Cazenovia, Madison county, Feb. 4, 1850, the son of a retired farmer. He received his education in his native town and at the Cazenovia Seminary. He graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York city, in 1873, and served as interne in Bellevue Hospital in 1875. He entered upon practice in Nyack with Dr. J. O. Polhemus, with whom he remained for five years, when he opened a separate office in the same village. He is attending physician and surgeon at the Nyack Hospital and is a member of the Rockland County and New York State Medical Associations. Dr. Maynard was Water Commissioner for several years and member of the Board of Education for the Village of Nyack. He married, in 1878, Miss Elsie De R. Morford, of Cazenovia, and they have one son and one daughter.

Dr. Charles Demarest Kline, of Nyack, was born in Blauvelt, N. Y., Nov. 13, 1866, son of Michael and Maria C. Kline. He received his education in the Nyack Public and High Schools. He graduated in medicine from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, in

1892, and afterwards served as interne in St. Francis' Hospital, New York city. He came to Nyack in 1894 and entered upon the practice of medicine with Dr. J. O. Polhemus, with whom he remained for five years, when he opened a separate office. He is attending physician and surgeon to the Nyack Hospital and is also its treasurer. He is Health Officer of Nyack. He is a member and one of the Fellows of the Rockland County and the New York State Medical Associations. He married Miss Charita J. Hall, of New York. There are no children.

Dr. Samuel William Spencer Toms, of Nyack, was born in Elyria, Ohio, Dec. 11, 1861, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Spencer Toms. He received his education in the schools of Oshawa, Ontario, Canada. He graduated from the School of Pharmacy, University of Toronto, 1882, and from the University of Buffalo (Medical Department) 1891, and served as hospital physician in Buffalo General Hospital in 1892. He entered upon practice at Bellport, Suffolk county, Long Island, for four years, when he removed to Nyack, in 1898, where he has since resided. He is an Instructor in the Post Graduate Medical School and Hospital, New York, since 1899, member of visiting staff of the Nyack Hospital, Fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine and member and Fellow of the Rockland County and New York State Medical Associations and American Medical Association. He married, in 1894, Miss Elizabeth Bodell Orr, and they have one son.

Dr. John C. Slawson, of Nyack, graduated from the New York University in 1898, and settled in practice in Nyack in 1900.

Dr. John Willington Sanson, of Piermont, graduated at the University of Vermont 1895 and settled in Piermont in 1900.

The Nestor of physicians in Rockland county is Dr. Albert S. Zabriskie, of Suffern, who was born at Paramus, Bergen county, N. J., May 6, 1830, son of Stephen and Sarah Westervelt Zabriskie. He received his early education in the district school of his town, and later under the instruction of the Hon. Jacob R. Wortendyke. He graduated with the degree of A. B. from the University of New York city in 1851. He graduated in medicine from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York city, in 1855. He began the practice of medicine in Mahwah the same year, subsequently removing to Suffern, where he has since resided. He married, in 1859, Miss Elizabeth Winter, of Mahwah, who

died in 1860, without issue. On Dec. 31, 1861, he married Miss Maria C. Wanamaker. Three children have been born to them, Mary S., Catharine and Eleanor.

Dr. Sylvester Demarest, of Suffern, graduated from Bellevue Hospital Medical College in 1885. He is a member of the Rockland County Medical Society.

Dr. Daniel Burr Van Wagoner, of Suffern, was born in Spring Valley, April 10, 1859, son of William and Mary M. Burr Van Wagoner. He received his early education in the public schools of his native village and his classical education from Dr. A. S. Zabriskie, of Suffern. He graduated in medicine from the University of Vermont in 1884; also graduated in pharmacy in New Jersey. He was house physician in the old Chambers Street Hospital in New York, for one year. Dr. Van Wagoner began his practice in Sloatsburgh in 1884. The following year he removed to Closter, N. J., where he practiced one year, and then returned to Suffern. In 1887 he went to Birmingham, Ala., but returned after a short period to Suffern, where he has since resided. He has been surgeon to the Erie R. R. for ten years, is attending physician to the Rockland County Alms House and is also attending surgeon to the Ramapo Car Works and the Ramapo Iron Works. He is Health Officer for the town of Ramapo and the village of Hillburn. He is a member of the New York State Medical Association, the American Medical Association, and vice president of the Rockland County Medical Association. He married Miss Emma Sloat in 1889. They have two children (girls).

Dr. Benjamin Van Etten Dolph, of Suffern, was graduated from the Medical Department of the Syracuse University in 1899 and settled in Suffern in 1900.

Dr. Albert O. Bogert, of Spring Valley, graduated in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, 1875, and settled in practice in Spring Valley, where he has since resided. He is a member of the Rockland County Medical Society and visiting physician to St. Agatha Home. He is married.

Dr. Wilhelm H. Keller, of Spring Valley, is a graduate of the New York University, 1889. He practiced for a time in Bayonne, N. J., subsequently in Stony Point, N. Y., and Spring Valley.

Dr. Frank E. Pagett, of Spring Valley, was born May 27th, 1873, at Spring Valley, N. Y., son of Henry L. and H. Matilda Pagett. He received his education at the Spring Valley Union Free School and graduated in medicine from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York city, in 1896, and subsequently attended at the dispensary service in the Dispensary of the Roosevelt out patient department and Vanderbilt Clinic. He settled in Spring Valley in 1897, in practice, and is also an assistant in the Aural Clinic New York Ear and Eye Dispensary and Hospital, New York city; also surgeon to the Erie R. R. and visiting physician to the Alms House. He is a member of the Rockland County Medical and the New York State Medical Associations. He married Miss Elizabeth Pitts, of Haverstraw. They have two children.

Dr. N. B. Van Houten, of New City, who has practiced in New City for many years, is a graduate of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, 1867.

Dr. James Alva Dingman was born in Prince Edward county, Ontario, Canada, June 22nd, 1848. He was the son of Joseph and Maria Dingman. He was educated at the Belleville Methodist College, Belleville, Ontario, Canada, and graduated in medicine from the Eclectic Medical College, Cincinnati, Ohio. After graduation he had hospital service and then entered upon private practice in Florence, Oneida Co., N. Y., where he remained three years, when he became house physician for one year at "Our Home on the Hillside," a sanitarium in Dannsville, Tomkins county. He then removed to Spring Valley, where he has remained for the past twenty-six years. He is a member of the Rockland County and New York State Medical Associations. Dr. Dingman married Miss Nellie C. Burnely, of Paterson, N. J. They have had twelve children, ten of whom are living. The two oldest sons are students in the College of Physicians and Surgeons (Columbia), New York city.

Dr. John Sengstacken, of Stony Point, was born Nov. 7, 1862, in New York city, a son of John and Catherine Sengstacken. He received his education in the public schools of New York city, and graduated in medicine from the University Medical College, New York city, 1889, and had private practice under Dr. William M. Polk, New York city. He practiced under Dr. William Y. Keeler, New York, a few months and then came to Stony Point, where he has since resided. He has held the offices of coroner, member of Board of Education, Health Officer,



JOHN MABIE HASBROUCK, M.D.

ten years, and trustee of the Methodist Church. He is a member and secretary of the Rockland County Medical Society. He married Miss Florence Couch and they have two sons, Florence B. and Royal F.

Dr. Isaac S. Vreeland, of Stony Point, was graduated from the University Medical College of New York in 1876. He has practiced in Waverly, N. Y., and removed to Stony Point in 1899. He is married.

Dr. Norman Brigham Bayley, of Haverstraw, was born Sept. 17th, 1847, in Mansfield, Conn., son of Joshua and Andalusia (Merrick) Bayley. He received his early education in the district schools of his native town and under the instruction of his father, and later was prepared for college in a private school in his native town. He graduated from the Medical Department of Yale University July 11, 1871. He served the following year as house physician in the Connecticut State Hospital, New Haven, Conn., and subsequently in the Out Door Department of Bellevue Hospital, New York city. He practiced a short time in Seymour, Conn., then removed to Brewster, Putnam county, N. Y., where he remained until 1883. He pursued a post graduate course in the New York Polyclinic School and Hospital and the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary, and in 1885 removed to Haverstraw, where he has since continued in practice. He was Health Officer for several years. He is secretary and treasurer of the Rockland County Medical Association and member of the New York State and American Medical Associations, and also of the Yale Alumni Medical Society. He married, in 1872, Miss Etta Hemion, of Preakness, N. J. They have no children living.

Dr. John Mabie Hasbrouck, of West Haverstraw, was born at Port Ewen, Ulster county, Oct. 22, 1862, a son of Dr. Josiah and Ellen J. Blauvelt Hasbrouck. He received his education in the public schools and graduated from the Rockland Institute, Nyack, N. Y. He studied at both the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, and Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York, receiving his diploma from the latter institution in 1884. He served six months in the Ambulance Department of Bellevue Hospital. He came to West Haverstraw in September, 1884, where he has since remained. He is a member and treasurer of the Rockland County Medical Society. He has been trustee and President of the village of West Haverstraw for a period of twelve years. He was treasurer of Rockland county for three years. He is unmarried.

Dr. John Howard Crosby, of Haverstraw, was born in London, Eng., April 17th, 1873. He was educated in the public schools of Yarmouth, Nova Scotia. He graduated in medicine from Long Island College Hospital, Brooklyn, N. Y., in 1895. He served two years at the New Jersey State Hospital, Morris Plains, N. J., and two years at the Manhattan State Hospital, Ward's Island, New York city. He came to Haverstraw in 1899, where he has since resided. He belongs to the Rockland County and the New York State Medical Associations. He married Miss Catherine Rose. They have no children.

Dr. Samuel Sherwell Carter, of Haverstraw, was born in Dempsey township, Venango county, Pa., May 27th, 1869. He received his education at Grove City College, Pa. His medical education was obtained at the Long Island College Hospital, Brooklyn, N. Y., graduating in 1895. He immediately began practice in Ashland, Green county, N. Y., where he was elected coroner. He removed to Haverstraw in 1898. He is unmarried.

Dr. Eugene B. Laird, of Haverstraw, was born in New York city in 1855. He received his education in the public and grammar schools of New York city and the New York Free College. He graduated in medicine from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York city, in 1877. He had hospital work for two years and then engaged in practice in Brooklyn for two years and also a short time in Monmouth county, N. J., and came to Haverstraw in 1881. He has held the position of coroner and pension examiner and is Health Officer of the town and village, also president of the Rockland County Medical Society. He married, in 1879, Miss Clayton, of Long Branch, N. J. They have five children.

Dr. Virginia M. Davis, of Congers, is a graduate of the Woman's Medical College, New York city, of the class of 1886. She is married and has several children.

Dr. John M. Gillette, of Sloatsburg, is a graduate of the New York University Medical College, New York city, of 1892.

Dr. Robert R. Felter, of Pearl River, is a graduate of the New York University Medical College of New York city, 1894. He served one term as school commissioner of Rockland county.

Dr. Louis Bradford Couch, of Nyack, is a graduate of the New York Homeopathic College, 1874, and also of the New York Ophthalmic Hospital. He is a member of the American Institute of Homeopathy. He married Miss Natalie Kreuder. They have three children.

Dr. J. William Giles, of Nyack, was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, April 3rd, 1862, and received his education in the public schools of New York city and Leuderbach Academy, West Philadelphia, Pa. He graduated in medicine from the Hahnemann Medical College, Philadelphia, Pa., in 1885. Subsequent to his graduation he was resident physician Children's Homeopathic Hospital, Philadelphia, Demonstrator of Surgery, Hahnemann's Medical College, Philadelphia, and surgeon to the Children's Homeopathic Hospital and Camden Homeopathic Hospital. He practiced in Philadelphia until 1890. Since that time in Nyack. He is married, his wife being Miss Henrietta Peek. They have three children, Vincent Avery, Estelle and Chauncey.

Dr. Sylvester Straut Bogert, of Pearl River, was born in Pearl River September 23rd, 1844, the son of David N. and Phoebe A. Bogert. He received his education in the public school of Orangetown and graduated in medicine from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, 1865. He practiced medicine in New York city for nearly thirty-six years and removed to Pearl River November, 1901. He has held the following positions: House Physician to Eastern Dispensary, New York, attending physician to New York Dispensary, surgeon to the Metropolitan Street Railway Co. He is married.

Dr. Gertrude Hammond Harper, of Spring Valley, was born near Wurzburg, Bavaria, Germany, 1834, the daughter of Nicholas and Margareth Hummel. She received her education at Vienna, Austria. She graduated in medicine from the New York Medical College and Hospital for Women in 1867, and has practiced since her graduation at Spring Valley. She has been lecturer and essayist at St. Mark's Literary Society, New York city. She is a widow and has one son.

Dr. T. C. Wood, of Haverstraw, was born in Rockaway, N. J., in 1853. He received his education in the Medical Department of the New York University in 1879. He has practiced in Haverstraw since that date, with the exception of four years, when he practiced in New York city. He carries on a drug store in connection with his practice.

Perhaps there is no other test more significant of scientific zeal and love for the profession of medicine than membership in medical associations. Some men have the faculty for searching into the difficult and the capability of studying the results of experimentation; others can note with precision Nature's phenomena and make useful deductions, while

others can bring all these departments of knowledge together, correlate the factors having cognate relationship and deduce the practical application for everyday use. In the medical associations all these workers bring their harvest, where the winnowing process sifts the wheat and blows the chaff away. Medical societies are of rather recent growth. In the earlier and sparsely inhabited portions of a new country—such as ours was—the practical application of knowledge must be at first hand. The study of any science, requiring time, leisure and money, must wait until the culture and wealth makes such conditions possible. In the earlier Colonial days the fewness of physicians, the long distances intervening between them, made insuperable obstacles to medical association. The first county medical society formed in this country was about one century ago, in Litchfield county, Conn. It is therefore no wonder that one hundred years elapsed after the first settlement of a physician in this county before steps were taken to bring physicians into closer relationship. The first record of the formation of a medical society in Rockland county was in 1829. Dr. Abram Cornelison, of Clarkstown, was its first president and Dr. Abram DuBois Cornelison, of Haverstraw, its first secretary.

The society does not seem to have flourished and after a few years of disconcerted effort, it fell into decadence. The records of the society are lost, but Dr. John Polhemus, of Clarkstown, was during its continuance, at different times, both its president and secretary. It is not now known who were its members, aside from the names above noted.

Subsequently, in 1850, the old society was resuscitated, with Dr. John Demarest, of Spring Valley, as president. Dr. M. C. Hasbrouck, of Nyack, vice president; Dr. Charles Whipple, Haverstraw, secretary; Daniel R. Reeves, Clarkstown, treasurer. There were present at the reorganization of the society Dr. John Demarest, Dr. M. C. Hasbrouck, Dr. Charles Whipple, Dr. Daniel R. Reeves, Dr. Spenser S. Sloat, Dr. James A. Hopson, Dr. Isaac C. Haring, Dr. James J. Stephens, Dr. Jacob S. Wigton, Dr. Lucius Isham, Dr. John Perdue and Dr. Charles Hasbrouck, of New Jersey, a goodly number. Since its reorganization the society has periodically flourished, having its ebb and flow tides, but on the whole doing fair work for a period of thirty years, when it again fell into a lethargic condition. Since 1880 little attention has been paid to the society by the medical profession of the county. Its meetings

have been held irregularly, scarcely any scientific work has been attempted, and judging from the secretary's rather scanty records more attention has been paid to charges against its members for violation of the "code of ethics" than to medical discussion. That there has been little interest manifested in the welfare of the society is expressed in the fact that there has been no change in its chairman for twenty years. The following physicians have been at some time members of the Rockland County Society since 1850, in addition to those above named:

Drs. Daniel Lake, C. H. Austin, Bernard O'Brien, G. J. Hammond, William Govan, T. B. Smith, William S. House, Benjamin Davidson, J. O. Polhemus, H. H. House, Henry Reisberg, C. H. Masten, Frank Hasbrouck, Rykman D. Bogert, C. H. Neer, John Sullivan, J. Heng-gler, J. W. Swift, George A. Mursick, C. L. Humphrey, W. S. Stevenson, Isaac J. Wells, George O. Lockwood, N. B. Van Houten, E. H. Maynard,* C. H. Ten Eyck, Albert O. Bogert,* Dr. Gerrit F. Blauvelt,* E. B. Laird,* Daniel Wemple, T. C. Wood, Frank Lavassur, J. M. Hasbrouck,* John Sengstacken,* Sylvester Demarest,* William H. Keller,* F. E. Pagett,* B. V. Dolph. Secretary, Dr. John Sengstacken; Treasurer, D. J. M. Hasbrouck.

Just recently this society has shown new signs of activity. The present membership is a small proportion of the profession in the county. The following members have been president of the society since 1850: Dr. John Demarest, 1850-1853; Dr. Caleb H. Austin, 1854; Dr. John Perdue, 1855; Dr. J. C. Haring, 1856-1859; Dr. John Demarest, 1860-1861; Dr. Moses C. Hasbrouck, 1862-65; Dr. Spenser S. Sloat, 1866-1867; Dr. T. Blanche Smith, 1868-1869; Dr. Jacob S. Wigton, 1870-1871; Dr. Daniel Lake, 1872; Dr. William Govan, 1873; Dr. J. O. Polhemus, 1874; Dr. C. H. Masten, 1875 and 1880; Dr. James J. Stephens, 1876 and 1877; Dr. James A. Hopson, 1878; Dr. Edward H. Maynard, 1879; Dr. Gerrit F. Blauvelt, 1881; Dr. A. O. Bogert, 1882; Dr. E. B. Laird, 1883-1902.

Owing to the decadence of the Rockland County Medical Society, the medical profession of the county felt the need of a new and active society which should harmonize and stimulate to greater scientific zeal the physicians of the county. With this end in view and with the aid of the New York State Medical Association, an organization was effected in

* Indicate those who have been members in the last five years.

September, 1901, at Nyack, called the Rockland County Medical Association, which is in affiliation with the American Medical Association, and which has shown an enthusiasm which betokens for the future a career of activity and usefulness. At its meetings, which are held at least quarterly, most excellent papers and discussions have been given, which have excited a lively interest and are of permanent value. It comprises among its members many of the prominent physicians of the county, who have had large experience in hospital and private practice and includes all the physicians connected with the Nyack Hospital. The president of the society is Dr. Gerrit F. Blauvelt, Nyack, 1901 and 1902; vice president, Dr. D. Burr Van Wagonen; secretary and treasurer, Dr. N. B. Bayley; Fellows to the State Association, Dr. S. W. S. Toms, alternate, Dr. Charles D. Kline. The following are its membership: Dr. George A. Leitner, Dr. S. W. S. Toms, Dr. Gerrit F. Blauvelt, Dr. John O. Polhemus, Dr. Edward H. Maynard, Dr. Charles D. Kline, Dr. John C. Slawson, Dr. John W. Sansom, Dr. James A. Dingman, Dr. F. E. Pagett, Dr. D. Burr Van Wagonen, Dr. N. B. Bayley, Dr. S. S. Carter, Dr. J. Howard Crosby, Dr. Robert R. Felter.

There have doubtless been many who have practiced the healing art of whom we have no record, or merely that of their names, who have passed away. They have lived, they labored as no other men except physicians ever will labor, they died. Yet though the names of these simple country physicians be forgotten, their work lives. It is through these earnest men that Medicine has advanced, ceased to be a theory and has become a science. They have met pestilence and from their battle with it has arisen the science of quarantine and preventive medicine.

They have seen the agony produced by the knife, and to alleviate it discovered anaesthesia; with it the perils of childbirth have been overcome and its pains diminished. Bacteriology has been elevated to a science; asepsis has been transferred from a flattering theory to a hard, stern fact, which every surgeon is practicing today, recovering the health and saving the lives of multitudes. Thus the science and art of medicine is rearing its citadel to Heaven, having but one object in view, not gain, not power, not principalities, but simply to relieve the sufferings of mankind.

There is no better exemplification of that Christian ethic "Love thy neighbors as thy self" and the advancement of Christian civilization than the foundation of hospitals and institutions for the care of those who have been so unfortunate as to suffer from disease, deformity, injury or the want of parental care.

There is nothing more impressive in our present civilization, when compared with former times, than the number and magnificence of these beneficiary institutions, whose beneficence like mercy

"—droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven
Upon the place beneath, it is twice blest,
It blesseth him that gives and him that takes."

(Merchant of Venice).

There are but few towns of five thousand inhabitants today which does not have its hospital. In the work of a hospital the physicians and nurses are the creators and dispensers of its benefits. Hospitals are the training schools for physicians and nurses, institutions where orderly care, systematic treatment and scientific investigations can go hand in hand. Without these institutions no progress worthy of the name would have been made in medical science; the great discoveries and advancement in surgical technique and treatment which would never have been dreamed of—diagnosis, pathology and treatment would have remained theoretical guesswork. The benefits which accrue to the people of any town which supports a hospital are of a double nature; while the poor and indigent are systematically receiving scientific treatment, the experience and knowledge gained thereby is reflected in the scientific care and treatment which the general public receives from such physicians and nurses, who have opportunities for the perfection of methods and means in the application of the art of the practice of medical and surgical techniques.

The project of establishing a hospital in Nyack was slowly developed; physicians from time to time when some peculiar case arose which demanded hospital treatment, would discuss the practicability of founding such an institution and talk the matter over with their friends. Finally, in 1891, it was formally decided to work for a hospital and progress was made so far that on December 22nd, 1894, a certificate of incorporation was executed, with twenty gentlemen of Nyack named as incorporators, of whom six were physicians. As the Hospital will be historically considered under its appropriate head, the medical aspects are only dealt with here. The Hospital was finished and opened for the reception of

patients on January 1st, 1900. The Hospital buildings are simple but pleasing in design and are so built as to admit easily of additions. The internal arrangements are equally well planned, the hard and smooth walls present a pleasing appearance and afford fewer breeding places for infectious germs and give a facility for cleanliness. The medical and surgical armamentarium has been carefully selected and is of modern requirements. But more important than all else is the high standard aimed at in the quality and character of the work performed; in these respects the Nyack Hospital does not suffer in comparison with the large metropolitan hospitals.. A brief summary of the work from the date of its opening to Oct. 1, 1901, is appended. There have been a total of one hundred and seventy-two patients treated in its wards, of which number one hundred and thirty-six recovered; nineteen improved; two unimproved, and fifteen deaths. There have further been treated sixty-one patients free in the Dispensary. There have been performed one hundred and twenty-seven operations, embracing a wide diversity in character and pathology. The larger proportion of cases are surgical, as medical cases can, if necessary, be cared for at home. The following members of the medical profession compose the medical and surgical staff of the Nyack Hospital: Dr. J. O. Polhemus, Dr. Garrit F. Blauvelt, Dr. Edward H. Maynard, Dr. Charles D. Kline, Dr. George A. Leitner, Dr. S. W. S. Toms, Dr. W. C. McKeeby (removed from Nyack); Dr. Charles H. Masten consulting physician until his death; Dr. Frank Hartly, New York city, consulting surgeon; Dr. George M. Edelholz, of New York city, consulting gynecologist; Dr. Edward L. Oatmen, New York city, consulting ophthalmologist; Superintendent, Miss Gertrude Montfort.

Dr. Charles H. Masten, who had been actively identified in the workings of the Hospital, died May 1, 1902. He left a legacy to the Hospital of about \$20,000, which will erect a much needed addition to the building and increase manyfold its beneficent influence. In bequeathing this legacy to the Nyack Hospital Dr. Masten has erected a lasting monument to his memory, and in thus perpetuating the good which he did in his life by providing means for carrying it on after death he has well made himself the "beloved physician."

There are as yet no other hospitals in Rockland county. There are institutes for the care and treatment of orphans, under ecclesiastical con-

trol, but as they are not public institutions they will be treated under their respective heads.

Early in the Revolution after the disastrous battle of Long Island, the army hospital was removed to Tappan. The medical staff consisted of William Shippen, Chief Physician of the Flying Camp; Isaac Foster, Department Director General; Arnni R. Cutler, Physician General of the Hospital; Philip Turner, Surgeon General of the Hospital; William Burritt, Physician and Surgeon General of the Army. Besides these were Surgeon Van der Weyde, who with George Clinton escaped capture after the surrender of Fort Clinton by swimming across the Hudson river, and Dr. James Thatcher, whose "Military Diary" has preserved many of the events of the War of Independence for us. (Greene's History Rockland Co.).

The dental profession is closely allied to the medical. In fact, it is a specialty of the medical profession, but has been separated from it to some extent, as the special training of dentists is conducted separately from that for medical students, as the latter requires a large amount of study which has but little value to the former. In former times the surgical part of dental work was performed by physicians, but the mechanical part has always been peculiarly his own field, and is not encroached upon by the physician or surgeon.

As the number of dentists in this county is too few for any organized society there has never been any record of the first one who practiced this specialty. The earlier dentists were probably those who learned their art by serving an apprenticeship until a sufficient mastery of their work was obtained. There have been many excellent dentists who learned their art in this manner, as was the custom in former times for physicians.

Of the earlier dentists who practiced in this county mention may be made of Dr. Miles Davenport, who practiced for a time in Haverstraw, but mostly in Nyack, and Dr. George Wright Davenport, who practiced in Nyack until 1875. He was a graduate of the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery in 1861.

Dr. H. C. Gilchrest, of Nyack, began his dental study under Dr. George Wright Davenport, and afterwards entering the Pennsylvania Dental College, Philadelphia, Pa., graduated in 1871. Dr. J. T. Gilchrest, son of Dr. H. C. Gilchrest, began his dental study under his

father's guidance, afterwards entering the New York College of Dentistry, graduating in 1895. The two Dr. Gilchrests reside and practice in Nyack.

The list of dentists in Rockland county at present so far as can be obtained are as follows: James E. Blauvelt, Nyack; R. H. Murray, Nyack; G. S. Writer, D. D. S., Nyack; H. C. Gilchrest, D. D. S., Nyack; J. T. Gilchrest, D. D. S., Nyack; George F. Appleton, M. D., Haverstraw; Emilio Vincent Marquez, D. D. S., Haverstraw; H. Vanderbilt, D. D. S., Suffern.

Dr. John R. Crawford, who practiced dentistry in Haverstraw for several years, died in 1890 and is survived by a widow and son.

Dr. George F. Appleton practiced medicine at one time in Haverstraw and New City. He is a graduate of the Bellevue Hospital Medical College, 1877. He gave up the practice of medicine and entered into the dental practice a few years ago and is located in Haverstraw.

Dr. Emilio Vincent Marquez is a graduate of the Philadelphia Dental College, 1876, and has practiced dentistry in Haverstraw since 1886.

CHAPTER XV.

BENCH AND BAR.

By Hon. Alonzo Wheeler.

The task of gathering sufficient information and reliable data upon which to prepare an authentic and interesting history of the Bench and Bar of Rockland county has been attended with many difficulties. And one of the things which has hindered and delayed its preparation is the strange reluctance on the part of many of the lawyers now in practice and the relatives and descendants of those of former years to impart the knowledge necessary for the construction of an entirely accurate and satisfactory account.

The writer has found this work of preparation an exceedingly congenial employment and has striven to overcome the obstacles which have from time to time arisen.

In the accomplishment of this work he has, as it were, established most cordial relations with the men of the past, whose learning and dignity upon the Bench and at the Bar excite the admiration, whose integrity compels the respect of all who have cared to look into that past, and whose simplicity of life and manner give to the record a charm that it is delightful to contemplate.

And in the gathering of details the consideration of the nearer past has brought to the memory of the writer many who in that time, the time of his youth, were the best known and most eminent in the profession with which this article is to deal; who in that day were looked upon by the youth and the common people as prodigies of learning and legal skill, who have long since passed from the activities in which they were then engaged, and have been succeeded by a host of others more active, more aggressive, many of whom have in their day enjoyed reputations of which they were justly proud, and many of whom live to-day engaged in the never ending struggle for supremacy. For it is a feature of the legal profession that it presents possibilities of preferment, of honor and of fame, of responsibility and power, which appeal to the honorable ambition thereby incited, with greater force often than does the necessity for

bread. And yet with many it is always and only a struggle for bread, for bare maintenance, and is continually a life of discouragement and failure.

While the territorial area of Rockland county is small, and by comparison with other counties the number of its lawyers is also small, yet its record for the character, ability and success of the local Bar will compare favorably with that of most of the counties of the State.

Indeed, Rockland county may justly boast of its eminent lawyers and of many of its able judges, whose names have become prominent, not only in the practice of law, but in various other departments of public life. While in its earlier history its population was small, and the modest and easily satisfied wants of its inhabitants tended to the peaceful settlement of controversies, and the luxury of litigation in the courts was comparatively unknown, yet for half a century or more its general development and growth, its increase of population and multiplication of business interests have been rapid and marked, and the adjustment of property rights, and the protection and enforcement of personal and contract obligations, have created the necessity for that high order of legal talent which reflects honor upon the county, and which has presented prominently before the people, not only of the county, but of the State and nation, the names of men whom any generation and jurisdiction might delight to honor.

The legal battles which have been waged in Rockland county have, for the most part, been fought in the old Court House at New City. The establishment of the county seat at New City was due to causes which to the reflective and discerning mind will become at once apparent. First, at the time of its selection there were no railroads, and as all persons going there were compelled to drive, it was as easily accessible from all parts of the county as any other place that might have been chosen. Second, and principally, because the land was conveyed in trust for public purposes and was in the nature of a gift to the county, for we find the interesting record in the County Clerk's office that one —— Gerow in the exercise of a commendable public spirit, by deed, created the trust of which the county has ever since enjoyed the benefit.

The Court House which for many years amply subserved the purpose for which it was intended was erected in 1827-8, and for the same period the offices of the County Clerk and Surrogate were contained in

a small building on the same property and to the south of the Court House.

In 1872 the Court House building was greatly enlarged and improved, and suitable accommodations for the county records, the Surrogate's Court and the records pertaining to estates, together with rooms for the judges, District Attorney, Sheriff and Board of Supervisors were included.

But so great has been the increase in the public business since the said improvements were made that at this writing the accommodations for records both in the offices of the County Clerk and Surrogate are wholly inadequate, and it is to be hoped that the interest of the county authorities in this important matter will be at length sufficiently aroused, and their intelligence so quickened as to enable them to see that economy does not consist in the withholding of an expenditure of the people's money in a matter in which the people themselves are so vitally interested.

In the earlier history, the Court having the jurisdiction now vested in the County Court was known as the Court of Common Pleas.

The first Court of Common Pleas held in the county after its separation from Orange county, which was in the year 1798, convened at New City on the first Tuesday of May, 1798.

Of this Court John Suffern was First Judge, Benjamin Coe and James Perry were known as Judges and Abraham Onderdonk as Assistant Judge.

The peaceful character of the people and the absence of causes for litigation in the early history of the Court are apparent from the fact that there were times in the first ten years when even the judges failed to appear at the regularly appointed terms of the Court, for it appears from the record that at the May term of 1801, none of the Judges being present, the Court was adjourned by the Clerk to the next afternoon at four o'clock, and that no judge having then appeared, it was adjourned to the next November.

Among the attorneys who appear upon the Court records within that period were Samuel Smith, Peter Ogilvie, John Oppie, Thomas Smith, Robert Campbell, James Scott Smith, Jonathan Pearsie, Jr., Charles Thompson, William A. DePeyster and Robert Morris Ogden.

The office of First Judge was held by John Suffern until 1806. It

is evident that the distinguished honor conferred upon Judge Suffern by this appointment was well merited; and the characteristic qualities which obtained for him the positions of responsibility and influence which he from time to time held were transmitted to an honored and influential line of descendants.

John Suffern was born near Antrim, Ireland, on the 23d of November, 1741. He came to this country in 1763, landing in Philadelphia on the 6th of August. In September, 1773 he settled at New Antrim, which afterwards assumed his family name, and has ever since been and is now known as "Suffern," being situated at the extreme western limit of Rockland county. He became the owner of a large and valuable estate in the town of Ramapo. He continued to reside at Suffern until his death, which occurred on the 11th of November, 1836. During the war of independence he held the office of Justice of the Peace and was a member of the Committee for Orange county below the mountain. He represented his district in the Legislature of 1781, and before the separation of Rockland county from Orange county he was County Treasurer of the latter county. The following is a copy of the commission by authority of which he held the office of First Judge, to wit:

"COMMISSION to John Suffern, Esq., as First Judge of the County of Rockland, Passed the Secretary's office the 6th day of April, 1798.

"(signed) JASPER HOPPER,

D. Secretary.

"The People of the State of New York, by the Grace of God Free and Independent, to all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting:—

"KNOW YE that we have assigned and constituted, and by these presents do assign and constitute our trustworthy and well beloved John Suffern, Esq., to be the First Judge of our Court of Common Pleas to be holden in and for our county of Rockland, with full power unto him, the said John Suffern, to exercise, fulfill, do and perform all powers and jurisdiction which unto the office of First Judge of the said Court do or may belong: And we do hereby authorize and empower the said John Suffern, together with the other Judges and Assistant Justice of our said Court of Common Pleas to be holden in and for our said county, or any three of them, for the time being, (whereof we will the said John Suffern or either of the other Justices of the said Court for the time being

to be one), to hear, try and determine by a jury of twelve good and lawful freeholders of the same county all suits, quarrels, controversies and differences cognizable in our said Court and arising in our county aforesaid between any of the good people of our said State there according to the laws and ordinances in that behalf made and provided and to award execution thereupon and to use and exercise all the powers and jurisdictions to the said Court belonging. To have and to hold, exercise and enjoy the said office of First Judge of the said Court of Common Pleas to be holden in and for our said county of Rockland with all the powers, jurisdictions and authorities thereunto belonging unto him, the said John Suffern, for and during such time as he shall well behave himself therein, or until he shall attain the age of sixty years.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF we have caused these letters to be made patent and the great seal of our said State to be hereunto affixed. WITNESS, our trusty and well beloved John Jay, Esq., Governor of our said State, General and Commander-in-Chief of all the Militia, and Admiral of the Navy of the same, by and with the advice and consent of our Council of Appointment at our City of Albany, the twenty-first day of March, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-eight, and the twenty-second year of our independence.

“JOHN JAY.”

In 1806 James Perry was appointed First Judge. His associates were Peter D. W. Smith, Richard Blauvelt, Andrew Suffern, John T. Gurnee and Jeremiah W. Pierson.

In 1816 Samuel Goetchius became First Judge and continued in the office until 1820.

In 1820 Edward Suffern, son of John Suffern, was appointed First Judge and remained in the office until 1847. At the time of his appointment to the Judgeship he held the office of District Attorney, to which he was appointed in the year 1816. He was born at Suffern, and was admitted to practice at the bar in 1810. In 1826 and 1835 he represented the county in the Assembly, and in 1852 was made a Presidential elector. From the Court records it is evident that immediately upon his admission to the bar he entered upon a large practice which rapidly grew into a more extensive business. He died at Suffern in the year 1873.

Prior to the year 1847 the offices of Judge and Surrogate were separate, and the duties of the latter office were by no means onerous. Simplicity itself marked the methods of those days, but affairs were administered with dignity, and with much intelligence and unquestioned integrity by those holding these positions of trust and responsibility.

Litigation over the estates of the dead was practically unknown. The business of the Surrogate's Court rapidly increased until it has become a great volume, involving and presenting every phase of controversy, legal and equitable of which such Courts may have cognizance.

The first Surrogate of Rockland county was Peter Tallman, who had represented Orange county in the State Legislature in the years 1787 and 1788, and was a member of the Constitutional Convention in 1801. Mr. Tallman held the office of Surrogate until 1807, and again from 1808 to 1810. The office was held by Tunis Smith in 1807, and by Richard Blauvelt from 1811 to 1820. Mr. Blauvelt was a Presidential elector in 1824.

Bernard O'Brien held the office for one year in 1820-'21, and was succeeded by James Stevens, by whom the office was filled until 1828, when he was elected County Clerk. John VanHouten was the incumbent from 1828 to 1837 and was succeeded by John J. Wood. Mr. Wood was known even down to the time of his death as a man of strong character, of superior intelligence and a wise counselor. He was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1846 and also of the 20th Congress.

In 1841 George Benson became Surrogate and served four years. He was succeeded by Horatio G. Prall, who served until 1847, from which time the offices of County Judge and Surrogate have been held by the same person.

Horatio G. Prall was one of the most honored members of the Rockland county Bar, and the memory of his private and official life, more especially of his later years, remains with many still living. He was tall of stature and of dignified appearance. He was correct and fluent as a speaker. As a lawyer of ability and integrity he was the peer of any of his eminent co-temporaries in the profession. As a citizen he was most exemplary, as a friend he was true, kind and gentle. In short, he was not only an able lawyer and advocate, but he was also that highest type of man, a Christian gentleman. He filled the office of District

Attorney from 1847 to 1853, and always maintained a large and lucrative private practice.

In 1847 William F. Frazer was elected County Judge and Surrogate, which offices he held for two terms of four years each.

Judge Frazer had previously held the office of District Attorney, to which he had been appointed in 1833, and in which he continued at the time of his appointment to the Judgeship.

Edward Pye was elected County Judge in 1855 and served one term. Judge Pye was a man of fair ability as a lawyer, and as Judge performed all the duties of the office most acceptably.

He possessed many sterling qualities of character, and was highly esteemed by all classes of society. He was a member of the Central Presbyterian Church of Haverstraw, of which the lamented Dr. Freeman was pastor for fifty-two years. He was at one time President of the Village of Haverstraw.

Judge Pye was a lover of music and for several years was the leader of the choir of Dr. Freeman's Church. During the Civil War he entered the army and became Colonel of the 95th Regiment, N. Y. Volunteers. He died June 12th, 1864, of wounds received in the Battle of Cold Harbor.

Judge Pye was succeeded in the office of County Judge and Surrogate by Andrew E. Suffern of Haverstraw, who continued in the office until his death, on the 16th day of March, 1881.

Judge Suffern will probably always stand forth as one of the most brilliant personalities Rockland county has ever produced. He possessed in a remarkable degree the gift of fluency in speech, which with the added power and advantage of the highest culture and most thorough scholarship made him a prince among orators whom the people delighted to hear. He possessed a tenor voice of great penetration and carrying power, and the announcement that Judge Suffern was to speak upon any occasion was always sufficient to insure a large gathering of the people. He was born at Suffern at the homestead where his father, Edward Suffern, and his grandfather, John Suffern, had lived and served their generation. He was graduated from the University of New York, studied law, and resided and practiced in Haverstraw during the remainder of his life. In 1853 he became District Attorney, which position he held at the time he was elected County Judge. Owing to his

high strung, nervous temperament he naturally created strong antagonisms, but his friendships were firm and abiding and he was most beloved by those who knew him best. He was for several years Chief of the Commission of Appeals of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in this State and was an authority on Masonic law and procedure.

Seth B. Cole of Nyaek was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by Judge Suffern's death and held the office until the following January. Judge Cole was a native of Steuben county, in this State, received a thorough education and at an early age took a deep interest in public affairs and represented Steuben county in the Legislature. As a member of the Kansas Aid Committee, in 1856, he rendered efficient service in aiding Free State settlers into Kansas, and became prominent in politics, though refusing nominations to office. He came to Rockland county in 1867, and in 1872 was elected District Attorney, which office he held until 1876. Judge Cole was an exponent of the best and most ennobling characteristics in social, professional and official life. He was dignified and commanding in person, entertaining in conversation, scholarly and elegant in his public utterances; in his diction refined and chaste, ignoring the vulgarisms which too often debase the efforts of public speakers. He was essentially and always a type of the true gentleman. His memory will ever be sacredly cherished by those who were honored with his friendship and confidence.

Judge Cole was succeeded in the Judgeship by George W. Weiant, who had previously represented the county in the State Legislature for several successive years.

Judge Weiant was born in Stony Point in the year 1844. He began the practice of law in Haverstraw in the year 1870, where he continued to reside and practice until his death in 1895. He was one of the strongest characters in many respects that ever entered upon a professional and public career in this county. He graduated from the State Normal School at Albany with honors. He was well and intimately known by almost the entire adult population of two towns at the very beginning of his professional career. He was a despiser of the distinctions which divide the social fabric, and manifested the utmost contempt for shams, whether in the individual or in society. The secret of his success was largely owing to his ability to read and understand men, his sympathy with the struggling masses, and the fact which all men read and knew, be-

cause it was the continuous expression of his life, in action as well as in the utterance of speech that he was the friend of the common people. In manner he was singularly genial and attractive. In the discharge of his professional duties he fought for his clients with a faith in himself and in his cause which it was inspiring to witness. His preparation was always thorough, and the practitioners of his day learned at the beginning that industry and completeness in the preparation for conflict were essentials to the hope of success in the forum where he was the opponent. He entered upon an excellent practice in the first year of his professional career, which he retained to the last. As Judge and Surrogate he was universally commended. While off the bench he was most affable and kind; when engaged in the discharge of the Judicial prerogative, he was wholly unapproachable, apparently forgetful of the friendly and social relations in which at other times he delighted; possessing the extraordinary faculty of shutting out of thought and consideration everything extraneous to the matter in hand, remembering only that it was his to judge between friend and foe alike, or rather to forget for the time being who was friend and who was foe. This county has probably produced no man who could claim so great a host of warm and pronounced personal friends as Judge Weiant. His death was usually lamented. His widow and two sons still reside at the homestead where he died. The elder son, Fred S., is now the Sheriff of the county, and his second son, Charles, is engaged in business in the city of New York.

Judge Weiant was followed upon the Bench by Arthur S. Tompkins. At the beginning of this article it is asserted that Rockland county had just cause to boast of her brilliant lawyers and able judges. And it is undoubtedly true that the proportion of those who have become eminent is much greater in the smaller than in the larger counties. This is due to the fact that lawyers in the smaller counties come more closely and frequently in contact, the effort to achieve and maintain supremacy is made more necessary and strenuous by the limited number of competing aspirants, and the friction which sharpens wit is brought more continually in play. In the smaller communities the personality, which includes ability, integrity and industry, or the absence of these, becomes more certainly and definitely known and established, and often decides whether its possessor shall succeed or fail. And in the small community the people are not long in determining who are the men to whom con-

fidence may be given, and who are best qualified to forward and defend the interests which they represent.

In every commonwealth there have arisen men whose experiences have been phenomenal, men to whom success has taken kindly at the very beginning. And this not by reason of the favor of fickle fortune which has pursued the man, but because the man from the outset has asserted his right and his determination to succeed and has then simply proceeded in the use of the appointed means to achieve the desired success. Such a man is Arthur S. Tompkins. Although Judge Tompkins is one of the younger members of the County Bar, special reference is given to him here because it follows naturally the mention above made of him as County Judge. Judge Tompkins was born at Middleburgh, Schoharie county, New York, in the year 1865. In 1887 he was elected Police Justice of the village of Nyaek. He manifested an aptness for political life and was elected to the Assembly as a Republican in a Democratic county in 1889. In 1893 he became the Republican candidate for County Judge and was elected. In 1898 he was elected Representative in Congress from the Seventeenth Congressional District, and in December of that year resigned from the Judgeship. In 1900 he was again elected to Congress, and is at this writing serving his second term.

He is favorably spoken of as a candidate for the Supreme Court Bench and his peculiar fitness for that honorable and responsible position is not questioned, but is cheerfully admitted by his brethren in the legal profession. We have said that the people very soon recognize real merit and true worth, but it is not often that the members of a profession will with one accord admit and proclaim the existence of these qualities in one of its own number. However, in this regard, the legal profession differs from other professions. The spirit of fairness and liberality prevails in this profession to a greater extent than in any other, and we are sure that the subject of this sketch realizes and appreciates the fact that the bar of Rockland county accords to him a position foremost among all its members, and is proud of the lustre of his brilliant record, and of the prominence which is his because he has earned it, not only in his sphere of action in his own county, but everywhere where his services have been required.

Blessed with a good constitution and splendid physique, he possesses the ability and strength which have enabled him to succeed in every



ALONZO WHEELER.

undertaking. Besides the duties of his Congressional and professional life, his presence is demanded and his voice is heard frequently upon civic and social occasions. As a trial lawyer Judge Tompkins has no superior and few equals in the Judicial district within which his labors are principally confined. In the examination of witnesses he is shrewd, alert and incisive. In argument to the jury he is a marvel of freshness, simplicity and power. He always knows his juror and talks to him. His arguments are replete with illustrations which find their duplicate in the experiences of the individual juror. History, poetry and anecdote are brought into requisition by this master of the legal art, and all are blended in a production of argument, appeal, pathos, denunciation and eloquence which are sure to win a good case and save a poor one from utter destruction. And with all this rare and brilliant experience, Judge Tompkins is still a young man, and with the continuance of health and strength is surely destined to accomplish vastly more than he has already achieved in the successes of the past and present.

Upon the resignation from the Judgeship of Judge Tompkins, in 1898, he was succeeded by Alonzo Wheeler, the writer of this article, who was appointed by Governor Black to the vacancy thus created, and who filled the office until January 1st, 1900.

In 1899 Andrew X. Fallon, son of Andrew Fallon of Piermont, was elected to the Judgeship, of which he is the present incumbent.

Judge Fallon was born at Piermont. His education was obtained in the local schools (public and private) and in the George Payne Quackenbush School of New York, where he remained until 1873. He was admitted to the bar and formed a partnership with his father in the practice of the law at Piermont in 1879. For four years he was a member of the Board of Trustees of the village of Piermont and in 1887 was elected President of the village. From 1887 to 1900, with the exception of the years 1892-3, he was a member of the Board of Supervisors of Rockland county. He was elected to the office of County Judge in 1899 and is now the incumbent of that office. He was married in 1893 to Miss Francis K. Knapp and has two sons, Francis K., born May 20, 1885, and Alfred X., born August 3, 1889, of the ages respectively of seventeen and fifteen years. Judge Fallon has always stood for what was best, purest and most honorable in private, professional and public life. His is one of the few lives against which the venomous tongue of

scandal has never directed its shafts. Inheriting the sterling virtues of his honored father, he has always possessed the confidence of men without seeking it, by an every day life which was in itself but the assertion of the principles which he believed in, and which have made him a man of incomparable strength not only in the esteem of his fellows, but in the arena of politics through the medium of which he was elevated to the County Judgeship.

The very extensive practice in the management and settlement of estates, in which his business for the most part consisted, qualified him most admirably for the onerous duties of the Surrogate's office, and in every department of his official and Judicial life he has performed every duty with rare good judgment, wisdom and ability, continually proving himself fully entitled to and deserving of the confidence and good will of his constituents.

The plan of this work does not contemplate the mention of all who have from time to time occupied the position of Associate Judge in the county, and so reference will be made to only a few of the more prominent.

Among the most remarkable of these was George S. Allison, of Stony Point, whose association with the Court of Common Pleas began in the early part of the last century. He died at Stony Point when upwards of ninety years of age, and retained his mental vigor and gave personal attention to his business almost to the end. He served in the war of 1812. He was in those early days engaged in business in the city of New York. In his later days his conversation was often replete with interesting incidents of those exciting times. He came to Rockland county in 1815 and entered into the possession of large ancestral estates. He represented the county in the Legislature in 1829 and 1830.

John I. Cole, of Haverstraw, was one of the Justices of Sessions for many years. He was for a generation one of the most prominent figures in the county. He was for many years a Justice of the Peace and was also Supervisor of his town. In his earlier days he learned the carpenter's trade and was an efficient and skilled mechanic. While holding the office of Justice of the Peace he was engaged in the real estate and insurance business, from which he derived a fair income. He was the friend and helper of many and justly enjoyed the esteem and confidence of the people of his county. He administered the affairs of his court with dig-

nity and in the spirit of justice. As a friend he was true as steel and was never known to betray any trust. He was a safe adviser and many young men have profited by the counsel drawn from his wisdom and experience.

Elias V. Hill was another of the Associate Justices deserving of especial mention. At a ripe old age he still survives to reflect upon a well spent life, and for a little time to enjoy the consciousness that he has earned and deserves only the esteem and confidence of the people.

Frederick J. Wiles of Clarkstown, was also a Justice of Sessions for many years and was in his official capacity connected with many important criminal trials. Many others filled this important position for briefer periods, but the space allotted to this article forbids more particular mention.

The office of District Attorney has been sought and filled by many aspirants, some of whom were brilliant, and others of average ability.

The Sufferns, Frazer, Prall and Cole have already been mentioned. John T. Smith held the office from 1820 to 1833. Thomas Lawrence was elected in 1859 and served one term. Mr. Lawrence represented the county in the Assembly in 1868. He is still living and resides at South Nyack, in this county.

Marcena M. Dickinson held the office for three terms. Leander V. E. Robinson, of Haverstraw, held the office in the year 1868. He died in the South, where he had gone for the benefit of his health. The office was held successively thereafter by William C. Prall, Hiram B. Fenton, Marcena M. Dickinson and Alonzo Wheeler, who was elected in 1878, 1881 and again in 1896.

Mr. Wheeler was succeeded in 1884 by Abram A. Demarest, who was succeeded by Garrett Z. Snider, William McCauley, Jr., and Frank Comesky. As above stated, Mr. Wheeler again became District Attorney by the election in 1896, which he resigned in 1898 to assume the duties of County Judge, to which office he was appointed by Governor Black to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Judge Tompkins. He was succeeded by George A. Wyre, of Nyack, who was appointed to fill the vacancy created by Mr. Wheeler's resignation.

Mr. Wyre was succeeded by Thomas H. Lee, the present incumbent. Thus far we have made mention only of those lawyers who have held official position in the county.

The list of resident lawyers who have not sought or attained the distinction of office is a long one and includes many who whether dead or living at this writing, have established reputations for legal skill and ability which survive and will continue to live. Among these was Thomas E. Blanch, of Piermont, long since deceased. He is said to have for a long time been the only practicing lawyer in the entire town of Orangetown. He is remembered by those who knew him to have been a man of scholarly attainments and great legal ability. His practice was large and lucrative and included many intricate and important cases.

John C. T. Schmidt was one of the old time lawyers who is still remembered by many in our county. His principal and most successful practice was in the city of New York, although he was a native and for most of the time a resident of Nyack, in this county. In the later years of his life he practiced to some extent in this county. Mr. Schmidt was almost as well known for his courtly, and yet kind, cordial and genial manner toward all with whom he came in contact, as for his acknowledged talents as a lawyer. When addressing a court or jury he always commanded attention. He was a master of English and while his eloquence charmed his logic convinced. He was conceded among the foremost in the practice of his profession in the days of his more active life. The Hon. Hugh Maxwell, Hon. Abraham B. Conger and Hon. John W. Ferdon were all men of eminence in their day and were for many years residents of Rockland county and the owners of large estates there. Neither of them was ever active in the practice of law in the county. The Hon. Hugh Maxwell was among the leaders of the Bar in the city of New York and participated in the management and trial of many noted cases. He at various times filled the positions of District Attorney of the county of New York, Collector of the Port and Minister to Russia. The Hon. Abraham B. Conger passed the greater part of his time in the management of his estates, although he at times gave considerable attention to politics. He represented his district in the State Senate in 1852 and 1853, and was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1867. He was dignified in person and manner, of great and varied learning and attainments, a profound thinker, of highest culture and refinement.

The Hon. John W. Ferdon, of Piermont, was a gentleman whose confidence and friendship it was an honor to any to possess. He never

sought prominence in the practice of the law, but confined himself mainly to the management of his large estates and to literature. He represented the several districts in which he lived, in the Assembly in 1855, in the State Senate in 1856-7, and in Congress in 1879 to 1881. Mr. Ferdon was an active and consistent member of the Piermont Reformed Church and a liberal contributor to its support. He was for many years President of the Rockland County Bible Society. He was gentle, tender-hearted and benevolent. He was the friend of the young, and it was the habit of his life to diffuse sunshine and cheer in all places and under all circumstances. In a word, he was a good man. He has gone to his reward.

John W. Blauvelt, of Piermont, while admitted to the Bar, never engaged extensively in the practice of his profession in the county. Mr. Blauvelt is now deceased.

It will be seen by the reading of this history that Piermont has furnished a goodly number of the county's most worthy citizens. There are two others to whom it is my intention to make more specific reference. One of these is Mr. Andrew Fallon, the father of present County Judge Andrew X. Fallon. The writer feels at liberty to deal more in detail with the career of Mr. Fallon, for the reason that he has known him long and intimately, and may thus speak from personal knowledge.

Andrew Fallon was born in 1824. He was admitted to the Bar upon attaining his majority, in 1845. He practiced in New York until 1849 and in that year went to California. He returned to this county in 1850, where he continuously practiced until his final retirement from the activities of the profession. When the writer of this sketch began practicing in Rockland county one of the two men most eminent and busy in the courts was Andrew Fallon, and for many years the great bulk of the practice in the county was shared by Mr. Fallon and Cornelius P. Hoffman, and of this business Mr. Fallon had his full share. As the writer grew into the profession and came more and more in contact with these veterans at the Bar his acquaintance with Mr. Fallon engendered a feeling of the highest regard and most sincere admiration. He was distinguishable in his methods from many lawyers in that he spurned and never engaged in the tricky and dishonest technicalities which in the practice of so many have tended to bring the legal profession into disre-

pute. He is the representative of the very best element in his profession. He was always considerate towards the younger members of the Bar, and tried to encourage, rather than intimidate and discourage those young men who, like the writer, were trying to work up a living practice.. The cases in which he was engaged were always fought out upon their merits so far as he was concerned; he disdained to stoop to any merely technical or dishonorable advantage.

Although frequently urged, Mr. Fallon persistently refused to accept political position. He always retained a large and important clientage. He has filled out a very busy and eminently successful life. His attitude towards his brethren at the Bar was generous and always strictly honorable. An oral promise was always considered by him as binding as a written stipulation. It was his unvarying rule never to speak disparagingly of another lawyer. It seems a pity that such men as Mr. Fallon should be laid aside. But the infirmities of age are upon him and his active duties are done.

Cornelius P. Hoffman was a co-temporary of Mr. Fallon. He was a native of Piermont and was a lawyer of acknowledged ability. Mr. Hoffman began and for many years continued the practice of the law in Haverstraw, where he was for several years associated with John H. Hopper, now deceased, in the prosecution of a large and widely extended business. He was for a time President of the Village of Haverstraw, then known as the Village of Warren. Upon the dissolution of the firm of Hoffman & Hopper, Mr. Hoffman established a business in the city of New York. His later years were spent at Nyack. In person he was tall, well proportioned and decidedly handsome. His knowledge of the law was varied and extensive. In matters of practice he was an adept. As a cross-examiner he was most proficient. In the handling of a witness he was suave, smiling and effective. In cross-examination he was bland, patronizing and confidential in his approaches, and was thus almost sure to break down the safe-guard of caution on the part of an opposing witness. In summing up to the jury he was effective and often eloquent. For a period of many years Mr. Hoffman figured in nearly every important criminal case tried in this county, and always on the side of the defence. Mr. Hoffman is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Stanley Blauvelt, and two sons, Mark and John, Mark being now Police Justice of the Village of Nyack.

Abraham A. Demarest is at present one of the leading attorneys of the county, having an office in the village of Nyack, while his residence is on the main road leading to New City, in the town of Clarkstown. Mr. Demarest was born October 27th, 1831, at Nanuet, in this county. In the fall of 1848 he entered the State Normal College at Albany, from which he graduated in the spring of 1850. He followed various pursuits thereafter until the fall of 1856, when he was elected County Clerk, which office he filled with the greatest efficiency down to January 1, 1869. He served an additional year as Deputy Clerk under his successor, Cyrus M. Crum. While County Clerk he pursued the study of law and was admitted to practice in 1870. In 1884 he was elected District Attorney of the county and served as such for one term of three years. As District Attorney he was unusually industrious and efficient. His official record was excellent, and at the end of his term presented the unusual condition of a finished calendar, not a single indictment found during his term being left for disposal by his successor. As a general practitioner Mr. Demarest occupies a place in the front rank of the profession in the county.

Frank P. Demarest, of Clarkstown, has been in the active practice of the law, principally in this county, since the spring of 1887. For several years prior to his admission he was a student in the office of his uncle, Abram A. Demarest, at Nyack. He was born at West Nyack September 12th, 1852. In 1887 he was elected a Justice of the Peace of the town of Clarkstown, and in 1882 he was elected Supervisor of said town, which position he held at various times for the period of twelve years. In 1881 he was appointed Clerk of the Surrogate's Court of Rockland county and occupied said office for eleven years and nine months thereafter. In early life Mr. Demarest developed an aptness for politics and has for many years been an acknowledged leader in his party. Mr. Demarest possesses many highly commendable natural characteristics, among which are courtesy, generosity, kind-heartedness and the gentlemanly instinct, which have throughout his entire public life secured for him a host of warm and steadfast friends, and given him the power he wields in politics. In the years 1888, 1889, 1891 and 1900 he represented his district in the Assembly with entire satisfaction to his constituents. He is at this writing engaged in the practice of the law in New York and in this county.

George A. Blauvelt is a resident of Monsey, in this county, and is engaged in a successful practice both in New York and in this county. He is the junior member of the firm of Graff & Blauvelt, of 229 Broadway, New York city. Mr. Blauvelt is thirty-seven years of age. He was favored with the best educational advantages in his youth, which he evidently appreciated and fully improved. He received his preparation for college at the Chappaqua Mountain Institute, Chappaqua, Westchester county, N. Y. He entered Cornell University, from which he graduated in June, 1890, with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. He took a post graduate course at Columbia University, where in 1891 the degree of M. A. was conferred upon him. He attended the Columbia Law School and was finally admitted to practice from the office of Robert W. Todd, of 229 Broadway, New York, in December, 1892. In July, 1893, Mr. Blauvelt entered the law firm of Graff & Blauvelt as junior member. In the years 1893, 1894 and 1895 he was School Commissioner of Rockland county and filled the office acceptably. Mr. Blauvelt is at present a director in and attorney for the First National Bank of Spring Valley, N. Y. As a man and lawyer Mr. Blauvelt merits and enjoys the esteem and confidence of the community.

William H. Bannister, of Nyack, is a son of Professor William H. Bannister, formerly an accomplished and successful educator of Nyack, now deceased. He was admitted to practice in May, 1900. He soon thereafter formed a co-partnership with Arthur S. Tompkins, under the firm name of Tompkins & Bannister. Being afterwards elected a Justice of the Peace for Orangetown, he withdrew from such co-partnership and devoted himself principally to the duties of his office. He subsequently entered into a partnership with Clarence Lexow and George A. Wyre, under the firm name of Lexow, Wyre & Bannister. He soon withdrew from the partnership thus formed and has ever since been engaged in the practice on his own account in connection with his duties as Justice of the Peace, which office he has held for four consecutive terms.

The personal and professional career of William TenBroeck Storms, formerly of Nyack, now deceased, demand more than a passing notice. This biography is written largely from the writer's personal knowledge of Mr. Storms and partly from a sketch made by Mr. Storms himself at the request of the compilers of this work. The professional life of Mr.

Storms was modest, unassuming, devoted to his clientage, and faithful and careful to the last degree in every detail of the work assigned him in the many interests committed to him.

Mr. Storms was a son of Abram J. Storms, who is still living, and who once conducted a flourishing business at Nyack in the manufacture of cedar ware, for which he had a large Southern trade, which was broken up by the War of the Rebellion. His mother's name was Sarah Smith TenBroeck, a name even now well known in some parts of New Jersey. The subject of this sketch received a common school education at the Nyack public school, which was followed by an academic course, also at Nyack. Mr. Storms studied law first in the office of Thomas Lawrence, at 117 Nassau street, in the city of New York, and afterwards with Edward Wells, at Peekskill, N. Y., from whose office he was admitted to practice in May, 1866. He commenced practice as managing clerk for Dexter A. Hawkins, of New York, and afterwards took an office of his own at 150 Broadway, New York, where he remained two years, then going to Nyack, where he continued in business until the time of his death, which occurred in 1901. Mr. Storms was from time to time connected with various local enterprises, prominent among which was the Nyack Building Co-Operative Savings and Loan Association, of which he was at the time of his death the attorney. He also held the office of Referee in Bankruptcy. Mr. Storms acquired a large Equity and Surrogate's practice, which he retained until his death. It is said that he was the friend and counsellor of many who were too poor to pay, and of whom he neither demanded nor expected compensation. His memory will be cherished by those who knew him most intimately during the thirty-five years of his professional life.

Justin DuPratt White is one of the younger members of the profession, whose scholarly attainments and creditable record at the Bar constitute him already one of the foremost in the practice. Mr. White is one of the class of men whom one feels honored in knowing. The writer in this department has no desire to be diffusive or fulsome, but he has a most sincere desire to be just; and is entirely so in the statement that J. DuPratt White is one of the men and lawyers whom it is a delight to know and be associated with. As a lawyer he is brilliant and formidable before court or jury. Mr. White was born at Middletown, Orange county, New York, on the 25th of July 1869. His father is Charles Nel-

son White, who is still living in Nyack. His mother, Elizabeth Crosby, was a native of Akron, Ohio, and died about fifteen years ago. The subject of this sketch has lived in Rockland county about twenty-four years, the most of the time in Nyack. He was educated at various private schools in this State and in New Jersey; in the Nyack Union Free School, from which he graduated in 1885; in the Ithaca High School, at Ithaca, N. Y., and in Cornell University. He graduated from Cornell University June 19th, 1890, after the usual four years' course, with the degree of Bachelor of Letters. He was admitted to the bar in February, 1892, and has ever since practiced law in New York and Rockland counties. In 1896 Mr. White formed a partnership with Henry J. Coggeshall (for many years State Senator from Oneida county, New York), under the firm name of Coggeshall & White. In 1901, said partnership having been dissolved, he formed a partnership with George B. Case, under the firm name of White & Case, which partnership is still in existence. In 1900 he was appointed by Governor Roosevelt a Commissioner of the Palisades Interstate Park for New York, and by Governor Voorhees a Commissioner of the Palisades Interstate Park for New Jersey, and subsequently was elected by the Commissioners secretary of each of the said commissions, which position he still holds. Mr. White is a Republican and has manifested considerable interest in politics in Rockland county, having been repeatedly elected a delegate to Judiciary and Congressional conventions. On September 7th, 1898, Mr. White married Miss Anita Bradley Lombard, daughter of Thomas Russell Lombard, of Fort Hamilton, New York.

Philip VanAlstine, of Spring Valley, has been a resident of Rockland county since May, 1877. He has practiced largely and principally in the New York city courts, although he has at the same time represented an important clientage and many large interests elsewhere. Mr. Van Alstine was born in the town of Stuyvesant, Columbia county, N. Y., in 1845, and is a lineal descendant of Jan Martense VanAlstine, one of the first settlers of Columbia county, who located there in 1656. He began the study of law with Hon. Charles L. Beale and Warren C. Benton, at Hudson, Columbia county, in 1866, and was admitted to practice as an attorney and counsellor at law in New York county in 1868. He has been principally engaged in the management and trial of civil actions.



GEORGE W. WELANT.

He has frequently been retained as attorney or counsel in the State and United States courts in the trial or argument of causes involving intricate questions of law and important interests. Mr. VanAlstine has never engaged actively in politics. He has, however, held many positions of local responsibility and importance, and has represented his districts in National, State and County Conventions.

Irving Brown, of Haverstraw, is known as one of the ablest lawyers of this county. He engaged in the study of law in the office of the late Judge Andrew E. Suffern, at Haverstraw, and was admitted to practice in the year 1875. Immediately upon his admission he entered into a co-partnership with Alonzo Wheeler, the writer of this sketch, under the firm name of Wheeler & Brown. This partnership was dissolved in 1883, both of its members continuing separately in business in Haverstraw until the present time. In the intervening years Mr. Brown has conducted an immense business with marked ability and success. He possesses the unusual faculty of concentration in thought and speech, and his addresses to court and jury have been models of forensic effort, often abounding with the most cutting sarcasm and always without redundancy of words. Comprehensive grasp of the subject, and clear, happy and pointed expression, together with the uniform success of his efforts have earned for Mr. Brown the high standing conceded to him by the profession. He has twice represented his district in the State Assembly. His opinions upon difficult questions of law have often been sought and accepted as authority, even by his seniors in the practice.

Among the lawyers formerly well known in the county, who are now deceased, in addition to those already mentioned, are William B. Slocum, George L. Mann, John H. Hopper, Charles W. Root, Garrett Z. Snider, Hiram B. Fenton, Merritt E. Sawyer, and Andrew J. Mathewson.

The standing of these men as members of the community and in the relations they respectively bore to the Bar of Rockland county is remembered by very many of the residents of the county.

John F. McFarlane is the industrious and indefatigable junior member of the firm of Tompkins & McFarlane. In 1892 he graduated from the excellent Nyack public school and for two years thereafter studied law in the offices of W. H. Bannister and Frank Comesky, at Nyack. In 1894 he entered the New York Law School, from which he graduated in 1897 and was immediately thereafter admitted to the Bar. In the

same year he opened an office at Nyack and at once entered upon an encouraging practice. He became a member of the firm of Tompkins & McFarlane on the first of January, 1898. He has been recently elected a Justice of the Peace of the Town of Orangetown. He is twenty-six years of age. Mr. McFarlane is most competent and thorough in the detail work in every department of the business. He is a good trial lawyer and manifests a thorough and comprehensive knowledge of the principles of law and of the rules of practice. As an individual he is affable and courteous; as a lawyer he is hard working, persistent and aggressive. He is an honorable practitioner and reflects credit upon his chosen profession. While Judge Tompkins, his partner, is a leader among Republicans, Mr. McFarlane is an enthusiastic and popular Democrat.

Frank Crumbie is a resident of Nyack whose practice is conducted principally in the city of New York, where he has an office at 35 Nassau street. Mr. Crumbie was born in the city of New York, March 29th, 1862, and was educated in the schools of that city. In 1882 he entered the Columbia College Law School, from which he graduated in 1884. He was admitted to the Bar in 1885. He was married on October 25th, 1897, to Annie S. Towt, granddaughter of John W. Towt, late of Nyack, deceased. Mr. Crumbie is a son of James Crumbie, who, having amassed a fortune in the drug business in New York, retired from business in 1860, and devoted his time to the management of his large real estate holdings in the city. He established his summer residence at Nyack in 1858. He died December 12th, 1879, leaving surviving six children, of whom the subject of this sketch is one. While applying himself industriously to the duties of an active professional life, Mr. Crumbie finds opportunity to engage in important local enterprises, and has devoted much time and energy and given the influence of his high professional and social standing in the interest of the Young Men's Christian Association of Nyack.

Gerrit Smith became a resident of Nyack in 1893, where he has ever since resided, while engaged in the practice of the law in the city of New York. Mr. Smith was born at Madison, New Haven county, Conn., on the 8th of January, 1854. He attended the public schools for a time and afterwards entered Lee's Academy at Madison, from which he graduated in 1872. He then for one year engaged with the United States Coast Survey in surveying New Haven Harbor and Long Island Sound.

In 1873 he entered Yale College, from which he graduated in 1877, after which he taught for one year in the Boys' Preparatory School of New Haven. He then entered the law department of Yale University, from which he graduated in 1880. He was admitted to the Bar in Connecticut and afterwards in New York, where he began practice at 52 Broadway. In 1883 Mr. Smith was married to Lela A. Wood, daughter of Charles Wood, of Berlin, Conn. Since establishing his residence at Nyack, Mr. Smith has been identified with numerous religious organizations of that place. He has for a number of years held the office of superintendent of the Central Nyack Congregational Sunday school. He is a director of the Nyack Y. M. C. A., trustee of the Nyack library and of the Nyack Building and Loan Association.

Among the lawyers who formerly practiced in Rockland county, but have gone to other fields of labor are Robert H. Patton, H. D. Batchelder and Charles C. Suffern. Mr. Patton is a brother of Dr. Francis L. Patton, President of Princeton College, and Charles C. Suffern is the son of the late Judge Andrew E. Suffern, deceased.

Benjamin Levison is a promising and rising young lawyer, who studied law with Abram A. Demarest at Nyack, from whose office he was admitted to practice.

William E. Gowley formerly lived and practiced in this county. He still resides here, but practices principally in New York.

Fred W. Penny resides at Stony Point having an office at Haverstraw. Mr. Penny is a son of William J. Penny, formerly Sheriff of Rockland, and a son-in-law of John H. Neilly, late of Stony Point, deceased. He was admitted to practice in 1886. He has been twice elected Supervisor of his town. He is engaged principally in the civil practice.

Charles M. Stafford and E. T. Lovatt are attorneys residing at or near Spring Valley, and doing business principally in New York and Brooklyn. Both have practiced to some extent in important cases in Rockland county. These gentlemen with many others hereinafter named, have failed to impart to the writer such information as would enable him to state more specifically the matters of principal interest in their large and varied experiences, although he has requested them to furnish such information.

Mr. Garrett H. Crawford and Mr. Truman H. Baldwin both prominent and influential residents of South Nyack, have failed to respond to the request for information concerning their professional careers, and the writer is therefore unable to mete out to them that full justice which they should receive at his hands. Enough has been communicated, however, to enable us to say with assurance, that the Rockland County Bar is honored in its association with these two gentlemen, and the Village of South Nyack is fortunate in its ability to claim them as among its representative citizens.

Among the younger members of the Bar is Mr. J. Elmer Christie of Nyack, who though duly admitted has not confined himself exclusively to the practice. We bespeak for him a successful and honorable future.

Mr. Thomas Gagan of Haverstraw, is, we believe, the latest accession to the Bar of the county. Mr. Gagan was born in the town of Haverstraw on September 16th, 1879. In his early boyhood he attended the Haverstraw Public School, working on the brickyards in the summer. He graduated from the Grammar Department of the school at the age of seventeen. At eighteen he entered Manhattan College and continued there two years working on the brickyards during the summer vacations. In 1889 Mr. Gagan entered upon a three years course in Columbia Law School from which he graduated June 11th, 1902. During his course, in vacation time, he studied in the office of the Hon. Irving Brown at Haverstraw. Having been duly admitted, he began practice on his own account at Haverstraw July 21st, 1902. He occupies pleasant offices in the National Bank building. A man of Mr. Gagan's determination and attainments is sure to succeed.

Cyrillus Myers is a resident and practitioner of Haverstraw, and is as generally known and as popular as any public or professional man in the town. Mr. Myers began the practice of the law in Haverstraw many years ago, having for a long time been a student in the office of Cornelius P. Hoffman. He early entered the arena of politics, and was elected a Justice of the Peace of his town which office he held for many years. He then moved to Paterson, New Jersey, where he resided for a period of several years, at the expiration of which he returned to Haverstraw, where he again engaged in the practice of law. Still manifesting a fondness for politics he again sought the office of Justice of the Peace to which he has been since twice elected. While Mr. Myers has estab-

lished a fine legal practice, his special qualifications for the Judicial office have gained for him a most enviable reputation as an able, impartial and wise Judge. He possesses the unusual faculty of ignoring every consideration in the discharge of the Judicial duty except those considerations which are based upon and grow out of the merits as determined by the facts in evidence. In the discharge of his professional duties he has had committed to him many valuable interests, consisting largely of estates involving considerable practice in the Surrogate's Court. Mr. Myers, his wife and children, Arthur, Cyrillus and Blanche are members of the Central Presbyterian Church of Haverstraw, and are all active and devoted workers in every department of Church and Sunday school work.

George A. Wyre, of Nyack, is one of our best known lawyers. As a trial lawyer he is recognized as the peer of any member of the county Bar. In 1898 he was appointed District Attorney of the county to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Alonzo Wheeler, who had succeeded to the County Judgeship. Mr. Wyre is Republican in politics, but is extremely popular with those of all shades of political opinion. He has represented his party in various political conventions. While a resident of Clarkstown, his principal office is at Nyack, where he conducts a flourishing business.

George R. Bristor, formerly of Spring Valley, but now of Rahway, N. J., has an office at 206 Broadway, in the city of New York, but practices also in this county. Mr. Bristor was formerly in the ministry, and for several years preached at Spring Valley. As a preacher he was a man of rare power and eloquence. As a public speaker and advocate he is a most accomplished orator. The writer has in his many years' experience heard few men of any calling who possess in such a degree as he the thrilling, moving power of eloquence, combined with the convincing power of reason and logic.

The following are some of the lawyers who live in Rockland county, but whose business is carried on wholly or nearly so in the city of New York, of whom the writer has obtained no special information, viz.: Claude Gignoux, Benjamin F. LaRue, George W. Miatt, A. B. Norton, Lewis I. Snyder and James Taylor, all of the town of Ramapo, Ivan Sickels, of the town of Orangetown, and A. T. Payne, of Stony Point.

This article will close with a reference to some of the best known members of the Bar of Rockland county, which in every case will be brief, for the reason that special biographical sketches of all are given elsewhere in this history. Biographical sketches, however, do not always do justice to the personality or the achievements of the subject, and the writer deems it a privilege to add to the cold statement of facts concerning these gentlemen such criticism as may be just and proper.

Of this number the Hon. Clarence Lexow is one. His achievements at the Bar and in the arena of politics are now matters of history, and nothing that can be added by the writer of this article can add to the lustre of his fame. As the representative of his district in the State Senate and as the chairman of the famous Lexow Committee, he displayed those qualities of statesmanship in the exercise of which he was able to and did accomplish much that had before been deemed impossible for the purification of politics. His advocacy and tremendous and successful efforts for the adoption of the Greater New York charter, and the many other and important measures which became laws by reason of his skillful and determined advocacy are matters of imperishable record. His large law practice and the multitudinous interests and trusts committed to him in his professional capacity, have induced him for the time to withdraw from the more strenuous political life.

William McCauley, of Haverstraw, whose record also appears in a more extended sketch, has a clientage which extends throughout the entire county, and he has frequently been retained in the trial of causes in other counties. His record as District Attorney is a flattering one, and his entire professional career has been one continuous success. There is no busier or more industrious lawyer in the county, and there is no lawyer who more richly merits the esteem in which he is universally held. As a trial lawyer he has no superior in the county, and he is known to be exceptionally thorough, painstaking and conscientious in the performance of every duty.

Frank Comesky, of Nyack, is another member of the Bar who as a man and lawyer stands upon the same high plane where so many of his brethren already referred to are found. In the office of District Attorney of the county he won distinction, and his entire practice is indicative of the keen, methodical, devoted and generous lawyer. The Bar of



Harold Greengard

Rockland county accords to Mr. Comesky a high and honorable place in its ranks.

Daniel D. Sherman is prominent in the New York city practice and resides on Clinton avenue, in South Nyack. He has practiced to some extent in this county, and is highly esteemed by the resident lawyers who have the honor of his acquaintance, and by the citizens of South Nyack, who are privileged to claim him as a resident of that municipality.

Peter Q. Eckerson, of Spring Valley, conducts an extensive business in the city of New York, and has been engaged in a number of important matters, some of them involving difficult questions of law in the courts of this county. Mr. Eckerson is an affable and courteous gentleman, esteemed wherever known and recognized as a lawyer of superior ability.

Thomas H. Lee is the present District Attorney of Rockland county. He is thoroughly educated, refined, dignified and courteous. His biography, which appears in another part of this work, discloses a highly honorable ancestry and present family connections. Mr. Lee has manifested great zeal and energy in matters of local importance and interest, especially in educational matters in the town of Stony Point, where he resides. He is well grounded in the principles of law, a man of large general information, an accomplished conversationalist, a good lawyer, with a constantly increasing practice. He has discharged the duties of the District Attorney's office acceptably, and will probably receive the nomination of his party for an additional term.

John W. Furman, of Haverstraw, the history of whose life appears elsewhere, is universally esteemed for his literary and educational attainments, his thorough mastery and understanding of the principles of law, the ability and integrity with which he engages in the discharge of every duty laid upon him, and the devotion to the interests of his clients which has secured to him the large and important business in which he is engaged.

Irving Hopper, also the subject of a personal sketch to be found elsewhere in this history, is the attorney for the Nyack Building and Loan Association, and has established a large and successful business besides, by sheer force of character, merit and ability. Mr. Hopper is especially proficient in the class of cases known as equity cases, is recognized as an authority on real estate law, and as a careful and thoroughly competent and reliable searcher of titles his services are invaluable and are often

sought by the Bar at large. He has also a large practice in surrogates' courts and is proficient in all matters relating to estates, both as to the law and practice. Mr. Hopper is among the younger members of the Bar, but has with rapid strides advanced to the front rank.

Jonathan W. Sherwood is so well known throughout the county that any comments of the writer may be justly considered as unnecessary. As School Commissioner, which office he now fills, he has made an admirable record. As a lawyer he has secured an advanced position, and in the trial of causes has manifested a marked ability. The biographical sketch of Mr. Sherwood in another part of this work will be read with interest.

Frank S. Harris is the efficient and popular Supervisor of the town of Ramapo, which office he has held for several years. Mr. Harris is also counsel for the Village of Suffern. He has established a large and varied practice. He is universally esteemed by the members of the Bar and by the people of the community where he resides and is best known.

Fred S. Weiant is the popular Sheriff of Rockland county and is the youngest man who ever occupied that position. Mr. Weiant is a thoroughly educated lawyer. In his student days he was known as one of the brightest and most proficient pupils in the various institutions in which he pursued his studies. He was admitted to the Bar, but never engaged regularly in the practice. His partiality for political life led him to contend for honors in that field, and his first efforts were crowned with success. The term of his present office will expire January 1, 1904.

Harvey DeBaun, a native and resident of Clarkstown, in this county, entered upon a good practice at the beginning of his professional career, which he has maintained and largely increased. Mr. DeBaun represents large business and property interests and has successfully managed many important law suits. He is industrious, persistent and indefatigable in his devotion to the interests of his clients. In the trial of a law suit he is able, always manifesting a broad and comprehensive understanding of the issues involved, and indicating a thoroughness of preparation, which render him a dangerous antagonist, and commend him as one to whom the most important interests may be committed with the utmost confidence.

The writer of this article has striven to present an accurate history of the Bench and Bar of Rockland county. If he has been guilty of

omissions or inaccuracies, it is owing to his inability to obtain knowledge, for which he has diligently sought. The comments, eulogistic or otherwise, upon the lives of any are based upon personal knowledge of the writer drawn from contact and association with the persons criticised.

HISTORY OF JOURNALISM IN ROCKLAND COUNTY.

By Robert H. Fenton.

The most primitive methods of publishing news was among the Indians, the knowledge of important events being heralded by the swiftest runners of the tribes, such as were chosen by competitive trials of speed and endurance.

Then came the horse as a means of conveyance; the stage coach, and the slow Dutch sloop; yet news was still borne by verbal message, or letters sent along the post roads.

After awhile the printed page found its way into the county from Boston, New York or Philadelphia, and the news was read aloud in front of taverns, or in other public places, or among groups of neighbors gathered together to hear what was going on in the world at large; and then, as newspapers increased, Rockland was embraced in the territory covered by small local papers of adjoining counties.

The first newspaper published in Rockland county was the *Palladian*, and Ezekiel Burroughs was the pioneer journalist. This was in Haverstraw, in about the year 1812. The paper was only published a short time when it was discontinued, and then it was not until 1828 that another venture was made in the newspaper business. The *Rockland Register* was started in that year by Mr. Burroughs, and in 1830 it was changed to the *Rockland Gazette*.

In May, 1833, another paper was started in Haverstraw by John Douglass, and the next year this paper—the *Rockland Advertiser*—was

united with the Gazette, under the name of the Rockland Advertiser and Family Gazette.

In 1843 it was published as the Rockland News and General Advertiser, by John L. Burtis.

Two other papers were started in that village, but were discontinued in a short time, as they were opposition papers and could not draw enough patronage from the one already established. One was the North River Times, started in 1834, by Alexander H. Wells, and the other was the Mirror, published a short time in 1838. The forms of these papers were small and they were all printed on the early hand-presses then up-to-date.

The next paper established, and which soon found itself alone, having triumphed over all competitors, was the Rockland County Messenger. This paper was started by Robert Marshall in May, 1846, and was much larger in form than the others had been, and was soon known as a "blanket sheet," after having been enlarged to unhandy dimensions to accommodate its increase of advertisements.

In 1852 the Messenger was purchased by Robert Smith, who ran it successfully against all opposition for over forty years. During that period several other papers were started, but soon ceased for want of patronage; except during the last few years of the century, when an opposition journal found patronage sufficient for its maintenance, which was the Rockland County Times. The Times is owned and edited by Michael McCabe, who, without any previous experience in the newspaper business, has proved himself equal to the responsibilities which he assumed. Mr. McCabe's paper, which is fearless in expression, is a power in the upper part of the county, and its editor and proprietor is as genial a friend as he is a writer and hard fighter for what he believes to be right. The Messenger is at present published by W. W. Freyfogle.

Spring Valley has two newspapers, the Leader and the Sentinel, which do good work in their respective localities. Suffern has two newspapers, the Recorder, owned by Helmle Brothers, of Nyack, and the Independent.

The history of journalism now changes to Nyack, which soon took the lead and held it as a newspaper town.

August 7th, 1850, marks the commencement of a new era in the history of the place, for it was upon that date that the first number of a

weekly newspaper was issued. It was called the Rockland County Journal, and it was edited by William G. Haeselbarth. The first number was printed in New York city, but the office was soon after established in the village. The form of the paper was four pages and of the regular "blanket sheet" size. Robert Carpenter was employed as printer and when the first number was issued from the office in Nyack a large number of people of the village crowded around the windows and doors to see the novel sight of printing a newspaper. The old style hand press of the latest improved pattern was used. The paper was then Democratic in politics, and a large number of subscribers greeted its weekly visits, as it gave them a knowledge of what was transpiring in the vicinity or throughout the county, which was more satisfactory than the uncertainties of gaining information by chance. The editor was a young man of considerable literary talent, and the columns of the first twenty years of the Journal bore evidence of his ability both as a poet and prose writer, and in local history and politics, and especially in the warfare of sharp and stinging satire, in which he was quite an adept. In 1861 the paper changed to Republican in politics.

The Journal had been published about nine years when a second paper was started in Nyack. This was the City and Country, by Robert Carpenter, on May 19th, 1859, the office being in the second story of a dilapidated building in the rear of the Reformed Church. The press and material used in issuing the new paper had been purchased from parties who had for a short time ran a paper called the Rockland County Democrat, printed somewhere outside the county, probably in New York city. The first number Mr. Carpenter issued was called The People's Advocate, but the name was soon changed to City and Country. Shortly after it commenced running Mr. Carpenter, through the solicitations of Rev. L. D. Mansfield, formed partnership with William Wirt Sikes, an accomplished literateur, but the partnership was of short duration and Mr. Carpenter re-assumed entire control of the paper in 1861.

It was between the years 1860 and 1870 that amateur journalism flourished to a considerable extent in Nyack in addition to the two well-established weekly papers, and several small journals were printed. Among the number were the Ray of Light, for J. Bolingbroke Reynolds, which expired after the first or second number. The Boys and Girls' Monthly, a magazine, was started by William B. Corning, which

existed several months, and then the Home Cabinet, by Mr. Corning, which existed a year or two. Several other ventures were made, the most important of which was the Monthly Visitor, a good sized paper, edited by C. A. Morford, Jr. All these were printed at the offices of the two larger papers.

Many fluent and able writers helped the columns of the Journal during the long interval of Messrs. Haeselbarth's and Charlton's editorship, previous to the advent of the dailies; and also during the early years of the City and Country helped that paper to literary excellence. Among the early writers of poetry and prose are the names of Emeline Smith, of Piermont; Mrs. H. R. Haeselbarth, John Bolingbroke Reynolds, J. L. Fenton, Theander Secor, Henry Nelson Hanna, Willie F. Gilhrest, Louis Henri Caldwell, William Wirt Sikes, Fannie A. Dean, and in poetry, particularly, such talented writers as Henri H. Fenton, Martin Knapp, Frederic R. Marvin, John B. Ketchum, of Monsey, and Horace G. Knapp.

In about the year 1876 M. F. Onderdonk started a job printing office in the Onderdonk Block. Doing work at lower prices than at the other offices, the result was that it not only obliged the others to do work at lower figures, but increased the amount of printing in the village. Soon after this, Mr. Onderdonk started a small paper called the Rockland Advertiser. The first number appeared in February, 1879. This was the third newspaper permanently established in Nyack, for it continued for nearly ten years. In February, 1880, the Rockland Advertiser was purchased by Horace Greeley Knapp, who enlarged and otherwise improved it, and changed its name to Advertiser and Chronicle, though M. F. Onderdonk continued as printer. Martin Knapp at first served as associate editor, but was succeeded by R. H. Fenton, who remained nearly the rest of the year, during which time the paper obtained a firm foothold in the community and rapidly increased in circulation. On the withdrawal of R. H. Fenton, who returned to the City and Country, Martin Knapp again became associate editor. Soon after this, W. H. Blakeney bought the office from Onderdonk, and Martin Knapp served awhile as editor in full charge for W. H. Blakeney, as his son, H. G. Knapp, had withdrawn. The paper was independent in politics and the annual subscription was one dollar. In September,

1881, the paper was bought by Lafayette Markle, and the name again changed, to *The Nyack Chronicle*.

The sudden death of Robert Carpenter, on October 13th, 1880, left his family in the management of the *City and Country*, until January 1, 1881, when Joseph J. Hart, of Upper Nyack, purchased the establishment, taking in a printer, E. C. Fisk, as a nominal partner. The paper under the new management was somewhat improved and its subscription list increased. A new power press was also bought in place of the old Hoe hand press then in use.

Soon after the *Advertiser and Chronicle* was sold to Blakeney, Walter H. Supe, a lawyer of eccentric business habits and visionary ideas, published the *Columbian*, M. F. Onderdonk, who had purchased a new office, being its printer. Mr. Shupe, himself, personated "Father Columbia," and with a pen of sarcasm set out on a short but brilliant campaign of journalistic warfare. He was a most accomplished fighting editor, bold and aggressive in the use of the pen, calling upon the higher powers to uphold his righteous indignation, but, when worsted, was liable to spring some legal trap on his opponent to put him to trouble. For this, and some other reasons, perhaps, his contemporaries learned to avoid a controversy with him and ignored him altogether. Like all the other enterprises of Shupe, the paper was a failure, and he returned with it to New York city, where it was finally extinguished.

About the same time a monthly religious paper called the *Church and Home* was published from Onderdonk's office by Rev. William Stout, thus making five publications for the village of Nyack. The publication of weekly newspapers now reached its high-water mark.

The next newspaper established in Nyack was the *Independent Advertiser*, edited by John V. Onderdonk, and printed at the office of his son, M. F. Onderdonk, in 1882. The little sheet was noted for its temperance principles, and was very outspoken, even to excess, which often endangered the personal safety of its editor. In 1885 Millard F. Onderdonk became proprietor of the paper and it was enlarged.

In the meantime the *Rockland County Journal* changed hands. The establishment in 1867 was owned by Richard P. Eells, who was not a newspaper man himself, but had acquired possession of the plant by having previously been its financial backer. In that year it was purchased by John Charlton, who had had some journalistic experience in

California, as a reporter on San Francisco dailies. Mr. Charlton remained at its head for about seventeen years, when Dr. Frank B. Green bought the printing office and assumed the duties of editor. Dr. Green's health gave out soon after and he was obliged to leave the business in the hands of others and seek the benefits of an ocean voyage. He had previously written a history of the county.

In December, 1883, Joseph J. Hart withdrew from the City and Country, leaving E. C. Fisk in full charge. This responsibility proved too much for Fisk and the plant soon fell into the hands of a party called the "Rockland County Publishing Company." A printer by the name of Page was put in Fisk's place; but he too was unequal to the task, although the business was well established and should have been made to pay.

In a short time afterwards the establishment was sold to Colonel C. C. Messervey, a western journalist and war veteran. He was induced to buy the concern from the Company by Fisk, who was thereby re-installed as foreman. The latter soon after left town abruptly, abandoning his position; also that of Town Clerk. Col. Messervey was a man of strong intellect and was authoritative in his manners and paid strict attention to business. The farmers from the country who formerly came in to pay their subscriptions in vegetables or fruit, and have a social chat with the editor, found a different kind of a man at the desk.

Colonel Messervey brought the paper up again to its former standard for news, but the paper was enlarged to the extreme size of a "blanket sheet." It was a four page paper and the form of each page was twenty by twenty-six inches, making it inconvenient to handle.

On October 15, 1888, Lafayette Markle, of the Nyack Chronicle, died of malignant diphtheria, and on the 18th of the same month Colonel Messervey, of the City and Country, died. During this month R. H. Fenton was in charge of the Chronicle. It was just on the eve of a Presidential election and the Chronicle, being a strong Republican paper, was kept up to its political interest to the last. Mr. Markle was a man of kind heart and social disposition, and his death was much deplored by those who intimately knew him. He was a native of Pennsylvania, a college classmate, graduating with James G. Blaine, which had made him a strong supporter of the latter for the Presidency four

years previous. He lacked business capacity, however, and failed to cope successfully with his political rival, the *Journal*.

During Colonel Messervey's illness Joseph T. Kelly acted as editor of *City and Country*, but on the 12th of November, 1888, it was purchased by William R. Thompson, of Spring Valley, who assumed charge himself.

The *Chronicle* was sold to Austin Decker on November 21st, and on December 6th the establishment was bought by A. C. Haeselbarth, who had been placed in control of the *Journal* by the company that now owned it, and thus a troublesome rival was extinguished.

About the middle of December, 1888, J. T. Kelly leased the *Independent Advertiser*, enlarged the paper and called it the *Rockland County Democrat*. M. F. Onderdonk remained as foreman of the establishment for a year.

Adam C. Haeselbarth, who was now editor of the *Journal*, Dr. Green having died, was a son of W. G. Haeselbarth, its founder. On May 6th, 1889, Nyack's first daily paper, the *Nyack Evening Journal*, was started by A. C. Haeselbarth from this office. It was issued every afternoon and sold for two cents a copy at first and one cent afterward, and met with sufficient support to fairly establish it in the community. This event marks another era in the history of Nyack journalism. It threw the weekly papers in the background, as far as news was concerned; and, when, a little later, the second daily was started, the two dailies had the field almost to themselves.

The *Democrat*, after running a year, was, on January 1st, 1890, bought by Frank P. Demarest, Kelly remaining as editor and publisher.

It will thus be seen that there was a steady progress made in journalism in Nyack for the first forty years at least. With the increase of population the number of publications increased, and with a few exceptions, maintained a firm foothold. Enlargements, increase of circulation, and the spirit of enterprise, occasionally manifested, served to give Nyack quite a reputation as a newspaper town. It is a fact, however, that while the managers aimed to give their readers large sheets of reading matter, quantities of county and village news, there was generally a deplorable lack of care as to the literary excellence of the weeklies. This fault prevailed more during the years after stereotype plate was introduced.

On January 1st, 1891, A. C. Haeselbarth withdrew from the Journal, and the establishment was sold to the Helmle Brothers, practical newspaper men from Brooklyn, who put a vast amount of energy into their business, and gave the Journal a metropolitan air, making many improvements in the paper and carrying it on successfully. Mr. George B. Helmle is the editor and manager. Aaron W. VanKeuren, who had been connected with the paper for over twenty years, as a local writer, was retained. His knowledge of the town by almost life-long residence, together with his long experience in editorial work, and talent as a writer, made his services of much value. Alexander Y. Hudson, who had been foreman for over thirty-five years, soon after resigned. Of these brothers, Mr. George B. Helmle remained as editor.

Early in the following year Adam C. Haeselbarth induced William R. Thompson, of City and Country, to start a second evening daily; and the first number of the Nyack Evening Star appeared on June 27th, 1892, with A. C. Haeselbarth as city editor. Mr. Haeselbarth was a smooth and graceful writer and possessed a vein of humor that characterized much of his work.

Nyack now had two daily and two weekly papers, the Democrat having expired. The latter had flourished under Onderdonk's management, and after J. T. Kelly left, a number of would-be publishers attempted to keep it going, but no one succeeded. Finally the sheriff succeeded in closing its doors and the material was shipped to Haverstraw. The Mirror, a sixteen-page literary paper, was issued from the Democrat office in 1891, but it only lasted a few months. Theodore Moore was its editor and publisher.

In 1897 the Christian and Missionary Alliance, having established themselves on Nyack Heights, a printing house was built and their monthly religious journal was issued therefrom, under the editorial management of Rev. A. B. Simpson. In the same year, 1897, a type-setting machine was added to the Star office, thus doing away with a great deal of hand-setting. Linotype machines were also placed in the Alliance office.

A few years after the Star was started, A. C. Haeselbarth withdrew from the editorial work and Frank B. Knapp took his place as city editor. Mr. Knapp was a young man who had at first entered the office

as a compositor, but who proved by his ability and tact in the presentation of news to be specially qualified for the position to which he succeeded, and which he still holds. On October 18th, 1899, a stock company was formed, known as the "Star Publishing Company of Nyack, N. Y." The officers and directors for the first year were: Harry L. Thompson, President; William R. Thompson, Vice-President, and Alfred Themans, Secretary and Treasurer. In November, 1901, William R. Thompson withdrew from the company. In January, 1902, the directorate was increased and the following were elected: E. V. Loew, President; C. V. A. Blauvelt, Vice President; John D. Blauvelt, J. W. Dalley and A. Themans, Secretary and Treasurer. Mr. Themans has the general management of the company.

At the present time the offices of the two dailies are well equipped with machinery for book and newspaper work and stand far ahead of any others between Newburgh and New York. The "Star" is an up-to-date office and shows what wonderful improvements have been made since the founder of the business, Robert Carpenter, labored at the old-fashioned hand press, in pulling the bar, not only for every copy of the newspaper, but for everything that was printed—even to a small business card. Mr. Carpenter was a practical printer, attending to all the details of the office work, strict on time, and economical in the extreme, but no more honest man ever picked up a type. As a writer he only wrote as far as he was obliged to of the local news of the day.

At the close of the century a glance through Rockland county shows that several weekly newspapers had evolved from the numerous patent-sheets and bid fair to become permanent. They seemed at that date to have obtained a foothold in the villages and rural districts throughout the county.

A weekly paper, known as the Orangetown News, had been running for some time previous to 1901, when Mr. William W. Whyard, of Nyack, bought the concern in the fall of 1901, and under the new management it soon obtained a reputation for the original, humorous and attractive style of its contents, and gave promise of coming to stay.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IN ROCKLAND COUNTY.

It is only from the second quarter of the past century that the Roman Catholic Church dates its history in Rockland county, but from that time to the present its archives tell a story of steady growth and progress that fully compensates for the lack of Catholic participation in the early days of the county.

There is no record that there were those of the Catholic faith among the early settlers who first tilled the virgin soil of the regions now embraced in the limits of Rockland county, but that there were some, we have no doubt. However, their numbers were probably few and their homes scattered, as we find no evidences of Catholic aid in the early shaping of the county's destiny.

The historian is led back to the year 1832, when John DuBois, Bishop of the Roman Catholic Church in New York, purchased of the heirs of William Perry one hundred and sixty-two acres of land in what is now Upper Nyack. The land was pleasantly situated along the river front and extended up to the top of the Hook Mountain. The Bishop's purpose was to erect a seminary building for the education of priests and a church wherein the Catholics of the community could worship. Father McGeary supervised the construction of the building at first, but was later succeeded by Father Marshall.

While the seminary was being erected Father John McCloskey, who later became Archbishop of New York, and the first American Cardinal, was appointed pastor of the mission. It is interesting to note that the first mass in Rockland county was said in the old house near the "Green Mansion," on Broadway, Upper Nyack. In this house was also opened a school, under charge of Father McCloskey. Such was the humble beginning of Catholicism in our county, which to-day boasts of so many splendid edifices dedicated to the faith.

After five years of work the seminary building neared completion. It was a three-story brown stone structure, eighty feet long and forty feet deep, comprising a central building and two wings. When there only remained the interior fittings to be finished, a fire broke out at noon

one day in the south wing, and, spreading, totally destroyed the entire structure. Bishop DuBois believed that the destruction of the seminary was the work of an incendiary, and, becoming disheartened, he sold the property at a sacrifice, giving up his well laid plans. By a thorough and impartial investigation, it has been proven since that the burning was the result of a careless workman's act, and not through design, as the good Bishop, in his bitter disappointment, thought.

About thirty years passed before Catholic services were again held in the county. Those of the faith were at a great disadvantage, as to attend church services they were compelled to travel either to Verplanck's Point, near Peekskill, or to Jersey City.

THE CHURCH AT HAVERSTRAW.

In the year 1843 mass was celebrated in the house of Patrick Riley, at Haverstraw, by Father Volamus. Shortly after this the Catholics of Haverstraw organized and purchased land for a building. On Sunday, November 14, 1847, the church was opened for services and in 1849 it was dedicated by Bishop Hughes. In the history of Haverstraw in this volume is given a detailed account of the growth and present condition of this parish.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH AT PIERMONT.

In 1848 the Rev. Francis McKeone was appointed the first pastor of the Haverstraw Church and was given charge of all the Catholics then in Rockland county. He did not confine his labors to Haverstraw, but sought to widen his influence in other parts of the county. Through his efforts a congregation was formed in Piermont and regular meetings were held in the old Odd Fellows' Hall. Thought was soon given to the erection of a proper place of worship, and, as a result, land was purchased on the north side of the creek, nearly opposite the present Reformed Church. Work was begun on a building in 1851, and on January 1, 1852, the first mass was celebrated in the edifice, amid great rejoicing on the part of the Catholic population. A few months later, on July 1, the Rev. John Quinn was appointed pastor at Piermont, his parish including all the county south of Haverstraw, and, of course, taking in Nyack. This arrangement proved satisfactory for nine years, but as the Catholics of Nyack grew in number they complained of the

distance they had to travel to worship, and when the shops of the Erie R. R. Company were located in Piermont, there was such an increase in the Catholic congregation that the original edifice proved inadequate. A change of location was rendered necessary, and so the land on which the present St. John's Church stands was procured. In 1860 work was commenced on a new church, but when the building was raised and ready to be roofed, a great storm felled the walls to the ground. This was a hard blow to the congregation, but courage was not lacking. Work was re-commenced with new vigor and on August 13, 1861, mass was said in the new edifice. The present pastor is the Rev. P. J. O'Meara, who is both efficient and popular.

ST. ANN'S CHURCH.

The dissatisfaction of Nyack Catholics at the inconvenience they were put to led them to organize for the purpose of having a church of their own. Religious services were held regularly, beginning in 1865, in the building on the corner of Main and Bridge streets. By 1867 the congregation was strong enough to purchase four lots of ground on Jefferson street, which is the nucleus of the present magnificent church property. The erection of a church, to be known as St. Ann's, was begun, and on January 1, 1869, first mass was celebrated in it by Rev. John Quinn. This beloved pastor labored for twenty-three and a half years among his people, and largely through his efforts the churches at Nyack, Suffern and Spring Valley were organized and built, and the Blaauvelt Church added. Father Quinn died in 1875. His assistant, Rev. W. L. Penny, was appointed rector of St. Ann's and St. John's Churches by Cardinal McCloskey. In 1885 St. Ann's became practically an independent parish, in that year the pastoral residence being removed to the rectory, adjoining the church. The parish grew and prospered, taking the lead over the mother parish at Piermont. Father Penny was appointed irremovable rector of St. Patrick's Church, Newburgh, in 1890. He was succeeded by the present rector, the Rev. James L. Crosby, who began his pastorate with the energy and hard work that has since characterized it. In December, 1891, he purchased for the church the house and grounds of the Rev. Frank Babbitt, adjoining the properties of St. Ann's and Grace Episcopal Church. In September, 1892, he opened a primary parochial school in the house purchased from

the Rev. Mr. Babbitt, on Franklin street, which was placed under the charge of Sister Mary Edwine and three associate Sisters of Charity. Soon after the opening of the school the donation of Miss Hacket, to be applied to the erection of a church, was received. The receipt of this donation gave the pastor hope that what he long thought necessary would be accomplished. He had long felt the necessity of more church accommodation for the Catholics of Nyack, especially in the summer season, when so many strangers sojourn at that place. He was seconded in his efforts by his parishioners, who, though poor, were exceedingly generous; but it was the munificence of the Marquise de San Marzano that made the hope of the pastor a reality. While the church was in course of construction, ground was broken in the early spring of 1894 for the erection of a two-story school house, forty feet by sixty feet, which adjoins old St. Ann's, on the south, and which was opened in September, fully furnished and equipped for educational purposes, under charge of Sister Mary Edwine and four associate Sisters of Charity.

On Sunday, June 16, 1895, the new church was consecrated with imposing ceremonies. According to the Roman Catholic ritual, no church can be consecrated until it is entirely free from debt. This was the case upon the completion of the church and it remains so until this day. Not only the church but the entire group of buildings devoted to religious and educational purposes are free of debt. This result is due to the business ability and untiring devotion of Father Crosby. It is not strange that he is beloved by his people. The church was consecrated by the Most Rev. Archbishop Corrigan, assisted by the Very Rev. Dean Penny, Rev. Father Colton, Rev. James S. Fenton, Rev. Wm. Crosby, Rev. M. Connolly and six Jesuit priests from the Church of St. Francis Xavier, New York.

ST. ROSE CHURCH OF LIMA.

For many years the Catholics in the vicinity of Suffern had to go to either Paterson, N. J., Greenwood, Orange county, or Piermont, except upon occasions when Father Quinn held services in the house of William Cannon. However, in 1868, a site was donated by George W. Suffern and the present edifice was erected. Rev. John Brogan was the first pastor and in 1870 was succeeded by Rev. James Quinn. Rev. Father Merridith is the present pastor.

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.

About the year 1847 the Catholics of Tomkins Cove were wont to worship in the old store where resided an Irishman named John McGrath. Mass was celebrated there about once a month by Father McKeon of the Haverstraw parish. He was succeeded by Rev. Father Terrence Scullen, who also celebrated mass on Sundays in the house of John Coffray, for the benefit of those living in the vicinity. This condition existed for a number of years, but in the year 1861 a separate organization called Church of the Immaculate Conception was perfected and the present building erected under the guidance of Rev. Father Mahoney. He and his successor, Rev. Father Baxter, ministered periodically to the people until the year 1886, when the Rev. J. P. Brennan was appointed the first resident pastor. He was succeeded by Rev. Michael J. McElroy and he in turn by Rev. Richard J. Keefe and the present pastor, Rev. James Jackson. In the year 1899 the Catholics of Grassy Point then attached to the Haverstraw parish were organized into a separate body by the Rev. Father Baxter, of St. Peter's Church of Haverstraw, under the name of St. Joseph's, and a handsome church edifice was erected. This organization was set off from St. Peter's parish soon after and placed under Rev. Father McEvoy of the Tomkins Cove parish. Since this was effected the Tomkins Cove and Grassy Point churches have been under common control, the pastor ministering each Sunday at each church. The parish is in a flourishing condition generally.

ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH.

In 1868 a society of Catholics at what was then Blauveltville began the erection of a church. George M. Lediger donated four acres of land and on January 17, 1869, the church was finished and dedicated. Most of the communicants were Germans, who at first attended services in the Piermont church, but being slightly acquainted with the English language, they were at a disadvantage, and, too, the distance they had to travel was great. In their new church services were held in their native tongue. The church was supplied from New York until 1870, when Rev. Joseph Bruhy became pastor. He remained as such until May 1st, 1874, when he died. For about two years Rev. Emil Stenzel was pastor, after which Rev. W. L. Penny and Rev. P. J. O'Meara

attended to the needs of the congregation. Rev. Nicholas Sorg was pastor from February, 1887, to March, 1879, when he was succeeded by Rev. M. Kuhnen. Father Saur is the present rector and also chaplain of the Dominican Convent.

ST. AGNES' CHURCH.

The untiring Father Quinn became convinced in 1868 that the Catholics of Spring Valley were numerous and strong enough to warrant a church of their own, so accordingly the foundations of an edifice were laid. However, it proved that their strength had been over estimated, as the work dragged. For a time it was discontinued and then it slowly advanced. In 1880 the church was declared completed.

In the year 1895 the Rev. John G. McCormack was assigned as rector of St. Agnes' Church, Spring Valley, and also of Bardonia and Pearl River by Archbishop Corrigan. His predecessor, Rev. Father Hughes, was the first resident rector of St. Agnes' Church and the founder of the Catholic parish in Bardonia and Pearl River.

The Rev. Father McCormack is a native of New England and a son of the late John McCormack, a successful builder in Newport, R. I. He came to New York in 1880 as a young man and entered St. Francis Xavier College, and subsequently entered upon his divinity course at Niagara University, where he was, after the regular course demanded by the Catholic Church, ordained to the Catholic priesthood. The Rev. Father McCormack is a man of about thirty-nine or forty years and is remarkable for his restless energy and executive ability, as is quite manifest in his success in his church interests in Rockland county. When he assumed charge of his present church he found the Spring Valley parish encumbered with an indebtedness of \$10,000 to \$12,000, with a congregation too small in number to control it. The reverend gentleman immediately set to work, and, by his collecting tours in New York city and assisted by the co-operation of his people, not only mastered the debt, but improved the property to the value of several thousand dollars, establishing at the same time the nucleus for the fund for building a church at Bardonia.

At his request the latter fund and charge was turned over to the Rev. Mr. Mulhearn, then rector of the Catholic Church at Congers. Later the Rev. Mr. McCormack purchased a valuable tract of land on

Serven's Hill, Pearl River, and erected a beautiful Catholic Church, "St. Margaret's," for the use of the Catholics in that section. This church was dedicated by Archbishop Corrigan in September, 1901, assisted by many Catholic dignitaries. During Father McCormack's time in Rockland county he has won the respect and esteem of its citizens irrespective of religious belief, and has ever enlisted himself by voice and pen in all things conducive to the welfare of the community. As a ready talker, a finished conversationalist and an eloquent preacher, together with his business ability, he has done much to advance not only the interests of his own people, but as well to promote in general good citizenship, and all that tends to the advancement of the county.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH.

In the year 1894, St. Paul's Church was erected at Congers, on the Lake road. Rev. J. J. Mulhearn was the first pastor. The present pastor is the Rev. John Nageleisen, who was born in Pequa, Ohio, August 27, 1861, and was educated in the Seminary of the Arch-Diocese of Cincinnati. He made his theological studies there also, and was ordained priest in 1885. From 1885 to 1887 he was Professor of Philosophy in this institution, when failing health prevailed upon him to take up parish work, for four years. Recovering his health, he was appointed Professor of Languages in St. Joseph's College, Indiana. He was stationed there for five years. At the expiration of this period he again took up parish work in the Arch-diocese of Cincinnati for one year, and in 1897 he was appointed to St. Boniface, at Second avenue and Forty-second street, New York city, and in 1898 to the rectorship of St. Paul's, at Congers, N. Y. During these years of priesthood Father Nageleisen has been doing in a very quiet and unobtrusive manner a work that has made him well known in the Catholic world. Active and energetic in his methods, master of several languages, a writer with the simplicity of erudition, acquainted with many branches of science, and still eager to learn, Father Nageleisen is highly revered and respected by his parishioners and the public. During his pastorate at St. Paul's he has built three churches, these at New City, Rockland Lake and Bardonia, named respectively St. Augustine's, St. Michael's and St. Anthony's. He has also vastly improved the surroundings of St. Paul's at Congers, N. Y. During his pastorate at St. Paul's he has not accepted any salary.

CHAPTER XVI. TOWN OF HAVERSTRAW.

The precinct of Haverstraw was set off from Orangetown on the 24th of June, 1719, after the principal free-holders and inhabitants of Haverstraw had petitioned for the separation, giving as a reason their great distance from Tappan. Under the provisions of the Act of the General Assembly the first election for precinct officers was held on the first Tuesday of April, 1720, when one Supervisor, one Collector, two Assessors, one Constable and two Commissioners of Highways were chosen. The boundaries of the new precinct were indicated with an indefiniteness characteristic of the age: "From the northernmost bounds of Tappan to the northernmost bounds of Haverstraw" was the official description. The population comprised scarcely one hundred families. A considerable number, if not the majority, resided in a district in the central part of the precinct, called at first Kakiat, an abbreviation of an Indian name (Kaekyachtaweke). The land contained in that district had been granted by patent in 1696 to Daniel Honan and Michael Howdon. Some of the families who settled themselves there came from Orangetown; others from Hempstead, Long Island. During the years immediately preceding the erection of the precinct there was a steady in-coming of settlers, but the county, though richly endowed by Nature, was still a wilderness.

When Michael Howden died, about 1711, his executors sold off his half of the tract, in parcels of 400 acres each in most cases, to John Allison, Charles Mott, Elbert Montfort, William Hutchins, Cornelius Cuyper, Thomas Kirbie, Thomas Barker, Jacob Remsen, Richard Combs, William Campbell, John Palmer, Timothy Halstead, John Wood, George Downing, Jonathan Seaman, Jonathan Rose, Abraham Denton, Nicholas Conklin, William Osborn and Richard Pierce.

Daniel Honan sold his half of the Kakiat patent in 1716 to John McEvors, who in turn sold half of what he had to Lancaster Symes, in 1717. Symes sold off pieces before his death in 1723, and his widow and son disposed of the remainder.

Thus were the fertile lands in the central part of the precinct taken up. Other patents were parceled out in much the same way, and by 1738 the number of inhabitants in the precinct had increased to 634. The DeHarte patent on the river shore after passing through various hands came finally into the possession of John Allison and John DeNoyelles. Allison bought his half of the patent from Albert Minnie in 1729. This is part of the Crum Patent. Upon the death of John Allison, in 1754, his lands passed to his son Joseph; and when John DeNoyelles died, in 1775, his real estate fell to his sons John and Peter. The Allison residence had a commanding situation on the river-bank, twenty rods north of the present Main street. The southern boundary of the farm in part corresponded to our present South street. The estate was a pleasant one to gaze upon, with its level fields and groves of great trees. The DeNoyelles homestead was situated near the shore (about opposite the middle of the present cofferdam), north of Kiers' dock, which was near the foot of the Short Clove. The King's Highway, corresponding in part to West street and Broadway, ran along the river bank, past the DeNoyelles dwelling and between the storehouse and the dwelling of Major Kiers to the Long Clove, and thence on through the mountains. John DeNoyelles erected this dwelling about the year 1771. Mr. DeNoyelles was a member of the Provincial Assembly at the time of his death. He was then but 41 years old. The old DeNoyelles burying ground received his remains. Of Huguenot origin, he was an uncompromising advocate of independence and liberty, political and religious. He bought the south part of the DeHarte patent from the heirs of Cornelius Cuyper in 1769. The family residence was burned down by a marauding party from a British fleet on the night of June 20, 1781. A new home was built close by, by Peter DeNoyelles, and it was here that the early Methodists of this section met for religious purposes. The wife of Peter was a daughter of Theodore Snedeker. They had seven sons and five daughters, who, when they grew to manhood and womanhood, made family connections with the Harings, Theills, Smiths, Coes and Lawrences.

From the southern part of the Allison farm ten acres were sold in Joseph Allison's time to Thomas Smith and John Shepherd. Smith was a lawyer and a brother of Joshua Hett Smith. Before he died, in 1795, he said he would give the Methodists a site for a church whenever they



J. M. Keady

should need it, and this promise was honored by his son William. Shepherd was a Revolutionary captain. The ten-acre lot was bounded by lines corresponding to Main street on the north, Front street on the east, South street on the south and West street on the west. This tract is important because it was the site of the original village—the first plot to be laid out in streets and house lots.

At the close of the Revolution many families from elsewhere sought homes in this county, and the precinct of Haverstraw received no small portion of the increase. In 1790 the number of inhabitants had grown to 4,826. The title of "Precinct" was retained until 1788, when by an act of the Legislature that divided the counties of this State into towns, Haverstraw became a township.

The next important change came in 1791 (March 18), when the towns of Clarkstown and New Hempstead (now Ramapo) were erected and set off from Haverstraw. With two-thirds of her former population and three-fourths of her original territory gone, Haverstraw began life anew in greatly reduced circumstances. Even the town records were taken, so that there is nothing back of 1791 on the official books. The whole number of families left in the town after the partition was less than two hundred. There was one church, the First Presbyterian, which stood on the hill west of Benson's Corners. Half a dozen mills, as many forges, a few taverns, tanneries and stores, were the extent of the business interests apart from agriculture. Peck & Ramsey's mill, in the present Garnerville, and Herman's, near Minnie's Falls, were the principal grist mills. John I. Montanye ran a saw mill. Prominent farmers and landowners, living north and northwest of the Allison farm, were: Captain Lamb, John Crom, John Armstrong, John Waldron, Jacob Waldron, Alexander Crom, Benjamin Coe, Samuel Brewster, Thomas Smith, William Smith, Robert Henry, Jacob Roosa, Thomas Hays, Abraham Waldron, Matthew Benson, Benjamin Benson, Thomas Brewster, John Johnston, Jr., Jacob Sabriski, Benjamin Blagg, Ebenezer Bishop, William Peck, James Ramsey, Nathaniel Dubois, Isaac Gurnee, Francis Gurnee, Henry Halstead, Caleb Seaman, Thomas Kemp, Capt. Tobias Derunde, Gilbert Phillips, David Burns, Michael Hay, Ebenezer Bishop, Thomas North, George Lee, Samuel Goetchius, William Byron, Peter Brush, William Carr, Royal Flint, Jacob Theills, John Suffern, Cornelius DeGraw, Mordicai Mott, John Springsteen, Isaac Babcock.

John Waldron and his brother Jacob, John Armstrong and John Crom were married to daughters of Capt. James Lamb, who was a Tory during the Revolution. Captain Lamb's wife was a daughter of Hercules Lent, who owned large tracts of land now embraced in Stony Point town. Half of this estate fell to Mrs. Lamb, besides which Capt. Lamb inherited large tracts from his father, Jacob. Colonel Abraham Lent, of the Orangetown militia regiment, was a brother of Mrs. Lamb. John Crom resided at the junction of the road to Stony Point and the road to the west on the Crom Patent, near a large black walnut tree, under which the soldiers of a Continental army that was then in this vicinity once received the money due them. John Crom died in 1795, and his son John was the last Crom to own any part of the original farm. Robert Henry's farm lay between Florus Falls and the Crom farm. It was a part of the Henry farm that George Weiant afterward bought. Jacob Waldron resided on the north side of Florus Falls, in a house still standing, but not in its original place. Upon the site once occupied by John Waldron's home the William H. Rose mansion was reared. The Stony Point promontory was owned in the Waldron family during the Revolution. Samuel Brewster was interested in iron mines and forges, and lived near Tomkins Cove, in a pretty place on the river bank, long ago dug away. A small grist mill stood on the brook that ran near the dwelling. The seat of the Coe family was near the present Mount Ivy station of the N. J. and N. Y. railroad. Benjamin Coe was the first Supervisor of the town after the partition of 1791. He had been twice sent to the State Assembly. His father, John Coe, had been a member of the Provincial Congress, as well as County Judge. The neighborhood was also locally known as Gurnee's Corners. The land of Francis Gurnee joined Benjamin Coe's. Joseph Theill's home was at Theill's Corners, where he had a forge and grist mill, and where in after years a hamlet with church and post office grew up. Mr. Theill owned about three thousand acres, half of which was mountain land. He was a native of Denmark. His death occurred about 1795, when he was about 75 years of age. He left a son named John, born about 1770, who married Mary, daughter of Ebenezer McKenzie, who was a soldier of the Revolution. Mr. McKenzie was born in the Highlands of Scotland. On coming to this country, he landed first on Nantucket Island, and from there came to Stony Point in 1776. He was a sergeant in the First Massachusetts Reg-

iment of the Continental Line during the war, served six years and nine months and was discharged at Newburgh, June 10, 1783. Mr. Herman B. McKenzie of Haverstraw village is his grandson.

Thomas Smith resided in the "Treason House," and William Smith was his son and the donor of the first Methodist Church site. In still later years William Smith erected a fine mansion on the river-bank near Grassy Point, on land formerly owned by Jacob Sabrisk. Mr. Smith was a lawyer with an office in New York, and this was his country-seat. As "Rosa Villa" the estate was long and widely known, but like some other homes on Haverstraw Bay it fell a prey to the brick industry. Thomas Smith gave a lot on Calico Hill to the early Presbyterians as a site for a church and school house. Thus, there are reasons apart from the Arnold and Andre affair why the people of Haverstraw should remember the Smith family. The dwelling of Ebenezer Bishop stood at the corner of the main road to Stony Point and the road running past the church.

The church was built in 1790. The following year an agreement was signed that the Baptists should make certain repairs to the edifice and thereafter have the privilege of using it on alternate Sabbaths with the Presbyterians. David Burns was the Town Clerk in 1791. His father, the Rev. Robert Burns, died in that year, aged 84, and his body was interred in the family plot on the homestead near Garnerville. The Rev. Robert Burns was the first minister to have a dwelling in Haverstraw town. Families long settled in the town had private burying grounds, the DeNoyelles, Allison and Waldron graveyards being instances. With the Waldrons were buried some of the Weiants, Brewsters, Coes, Bulsons and Goetchiuses. Mrs. Jacob Waldron lived to be 103 years old, dying in 1844. Samuel Brewster died in 1821, aged 84. Jacob Waldron died in 1805, aged 67. Abram Waldron died in 1815, aged 45. Most of the old family graveyards have been blotted out of existence. The site of the first church in the town is indicated by a neglected graveyard.

The first town meeting after the partition of the old town of Haverstraw was held at the house of David Burns on the 3rd of April, 1791. The following town officers were elected: Supervisor, Benjamin Coe; Town Clerk, David Burns; Assessors, Jacob Waldron, Matthew Benson, Peter D. DeNoyelles; Collector, Nathaniel Dubois; Commissioners

of Roads, Jacob Waldron, Thomas North, Benjamin Coe; Overseers of the Poor, Capt. Tobias Derunde, Capt. Peter Allison; Constable, Gabriel Conkling; Fence Viewers, Isaac Gurnee, John Crom; District Roadmasters, Benjamin Coe, Thomas Smith, Peter DeNoyelles, Henry Halstead, Caleb Seaman, Thomas Kemp, Zebulon Williams; Isaac Gurnec, Capt. Tobias Derunde, Thomas North, Gilbert Phillips.

Benjamin Coe was elected Supervisor every year until 1800, when Peter DeNoyelles was chosen in his stead. David Burns held the office of Town Clerk until 1805, when Nathaniel Dubois was elected in his place.

The educational facilities conformed to the requirements of the age. Mention is made in the proceedings of the Highway Commissioners, under date of 1796, of a school house near Francis Gurnee's. Another was situated near Garnerville. The next reference to the schools in the town records was made in the year 1813, when, pursuant to a new State law, the town was divided into six school districts. By 1817 three of these had disappeared. The districts remaining were called No. 1, No. 3 and No. 4. District No. 1 extended from Grassy Point to Clarkstown, and from the river west to a north and south line through Halstead Gurnee's mill dam. District No. 3 was the present West Haverstraw and Garnerville section. District No. 2, which had given up its school, was situated north of No. 1. The children of that district now attended schools No. 1 and No. 3. The number of children enrolled in District No. 1 was 130; in District No. 3, 129; in District No. 4, 177. Another school, No. 5, was built in 1820. By 1828 the number of schools had been increased to six.

The most important improvements in the early history of the township were connected with the laying out of new roads and the altering of old ones. The records regarding these are numerous, though not very intelligible at this day. They evince a progressive spirit in the fathers, as well as a steadily increasing population for the town. The road districts of the town in 1827 were twenty-three in number. Among the early Commissioners of Highways were Benjamin Coe, Matthew Benson; Jacob Waldron, Thomas North, Samuel Goetchius, David Burns, Nathaniel Dubois, Peter DeNoyelles, Andrew Suffern, Samuel Brewster, George Lee. It was the general practice of the people to permit their cattle to roam at large. This was the consequence of a deficiency in

fences. The cows carried certain private ear-marks by which they were known to their owners. The "ear-marks" were registered at the Town Clerk's office. One owner is on record as refusing to brand his cattle because of conscientious scruples.

Many slaves were owned in the town at the beginning of the century. Among the holders were Peter DeNoyelles, Matthew Benson, Elizabeth Smith, Samuel Goetschius, Stephen March, William Denning, Thomas Hay, Resolvent Waldron, Jacob Waldron, John DeNoyelles, Walter T. Smith, Michael Hay, Peter Allison, John D. Clark, Robert Henry, Andrew Suffern, George Campbell, James Brewster, Samuel Smith and Thomas Smith.

On election days polls were open at three places in the town. In 1810 the voting places were Burns's tavern, at Mead's Corners; Post's tavern, which stood on the site of Denton Fowler's residence on Front street, and the dwelling house of Aaron DeCamp, at Stony Point. Town meetings had been held at Burns's from the earliest times.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century the population of the entire town of Haverstraw was 1,229, including slaves. The DeNoyelles and Allison farms, covering the larger part of the present village of Haverstraw, were substantially intact, except for the ten-acre lot that had passed to William Smith. Only one building stood on this lot and that was the tavern at "Martling's Corner." Another tavern, kept by Mr. Post, stood on the site now occupied by Denton Fowler's residence. A dwelling occupied by Mrs. Green (near the present Suffern home) and Judge DeNoyelles's dwelling, south of Post's tavern, were the only other houses in the neighborhood. Four in all, and all on the line of the present Front street. Back from the river and along the main road (the King's Highway) were but four houses between Martling's corner and Gurnee's mill. The principal commercial outlet was Captain DeNoyelles' landing, below Martling's corner. Several sloops ran from this wharf to New York. There was a back country trade, important even then, in the year 1800, and destined in succeeding years to increase to large proportions. Iron industries were springing up in the Ramapo Clove, for which Haverstraw was the most accessible port. Until 1830 the larger part of the output of these works were hauled to Haverstraw by teams and shipped from here in sloops. The inland transportation was favored by a good road. It was this back country trade, and not

forces contained in Haverstraw itself, which gave the village its first impetus. Haverstraw town itself had no exporting industries of distinctive importance, except in cordwood and iron ore from the mountains. The village, however, was a natural shipping point and market town for the country to the west, and until that commerce was cut off the place thrived. It is said that when one door of opportunity closes, another opens; Haverstraw has found it so.

Perceiving that there was a demand for home sites by men connected with trade and transportation, William Smith, in 1803, caused his ten-acre tract to be laid out in streets and building lots, employing for that purpose a Nyack surveyor named Tunis Smith. This village plot was bounded by Main, Front, South and West streets. Probably the proprietor himself selected the names for the streets. It is regretted that he did not choose better ones. During the first decade of the century Haverstraw town increased fifty per cent in population, not a little of it being represented by the growth of the village. The notable improvements of the period were the building of the Methodist Episcopal Church and the "Academy," both in 1810. The first teacher in the school was Mr. Quinn, who married one of his pupils, Miss Eliza Wandell, who was the last survivor of the multitude that witnessed the execution of Major Andre. The Wandell family moved here from Tappan in 1794, when the site of the village was a rye field. Commerce increasing, John Allison built a dock north of Main street in 1812. Three years later the foundation of the present brick industry was laid by James Wood.

Mr. Heman B. McKenzie, who was born in West street, in 1822, remembers distinctly the Haverstraw village of his boyhood. He first saw the light in the house that had been the residence of Michael Trout, who was a fifer in the Revolution, and whose widow died while kneeling in prayer in the Methodist Episcopal Church. Main street as Mr. McKenzie first knew it contained but four houses on the south side, and two dwellings, two stores and three barns on the north side. On the corner now occupied by the United States Hotel Samuel G. Johnson kept a harness shop and tavern. Johnson was succeeded by Isaac Martling, a tavern keeper. The building was burned in 1850. On the opposite corner lived Captain John Felter, who owned a dock at the foot of Main street, and also owned the sloop "John Felter." Eugene Smith then kept the

Union Hotel. It was here that the Masonic Lodge first met. Opposite lived John Van Dyke, father-in-law of the hotel proprietor. At the corner of Main and West streets was the house of Abram Marks; on the corner opposite, on the north side of Main, was the general store and post office of Marks & Sherwood. On the corner of Main and Fourth Walter Smith lived and kept store.

Among the early residents of Front street, south of Main, were Gilbert Furman, Garret Allison, who had a large shipyard on the beach in front of his house; Capt. John DeGroat, John T. Smith, a lawyer; Ralph Van Houten, who kept a small store and public house, and Capt. Edward DeNoyelles. The DeNoyelles had a dock and store, besides a sloop, the "J. G. Pierson," which carried the product of the Ramapo iron works to New York. The store was at the end of the street, which here turned and met West street. On the turn was the Pierson's mule sheds, where were stabled the wagons and teams that brought the freight from the Ramapo iron works. Usually three teams were hitched to each wagon. That part of the village is greatly changed; much has been dug away.

Captain John DeGroat sailed the sloop "John Felter" and in later years the Adelaide, a sloop built by Daniel DeNoyelles. Denton Fowler's house occupies the site of the Post house, one of the first built in Haverstraw. On the beach below Felter's dock was the shipyard of Garret Allison and next south was Taylor's dock. Nothing intervened between that and the DeNoyelles store and landing, which were five or six hundred yards south. The first brickyard encountered was Daniel DeNoyelles', below which was James Wood's. Between the two brickyards was a burying ground for slaves. There were a number of docks. A hundred yards south of Felter's was Noah Brown's, which was not used within Mr. McKenzie's recollection. Between that and the Pullen Point landing was an old abandoned stone dock. Steamboats stopped occasionally at Pullen's Point dock, which was also used by the Peeks. There was nothing between Pullen's Point and Grassy Point, but at the latter place was a large hotel and a store, besides the pier. At the foot of Long Clove was Snedeker's landing, where steamboats once stopped. The Rockland landed at DeNoyelles' dock. A large country trade came down to Felter's as well as to DeNoyelles' wharf. Great quantities of wood were shipped from Haverstraw.

When winter came the cold was steady. Snow lay on the ground the season through. Garret Allison was the father of Michael Allison, who learned the shipbuilding trade here, then moved to Jersey City and became one of the most prominent boat builders of his time. Michael was the builder of the steamboats Mary Powell and James W. Baldwin. His grave is in Mount Repose Cemetery. Behind the stores on the north side of Main street was an orchard. In the valley, near where the First Presbyterian Church was afterward erected, was a large millpond. At "Gurnee's corners" John and Leonard Gurnee kept a store. Leonard died in 1852, aged 60. He passed all his life in this neighborhood, and for forty years was a member of the M. E. Church, mostly as an officer.

Meanwhile the brick industry was growing and offering new opportunities for the investment of capital and the employment of labor. In 1830 a decided impetus was given to the town by the setting up of rolling mills on Minisceongo creek, by the firm of Peck & Phelps, who had long been engaged in the tin plate business at New York, with a branch in Liverpool, Eng. Elisha Peck had been in charge of the foreign branch for fifteen years, when, in the summer of 1830, the firm having decided to build works at Haverstraw, he returned to this country, bringing machinery for a rolling mill. Mr. Peck's partner, Anson G. Phelps, had already purchased the site. A manufacturing business was started that in a few years reached large proportions. The product was sheet iron, thin wire, screws, sulphuric acid and other chemicals. A village that grew up at the works was named Samsondale, in honor of the ship Samson, which brought Mr. Peck back from England. A tramway to Pullen's point was laid, by which manufactures and supplies were carried to and from the firm's wharf. The opportunity for employment offered by the works and the consequent increase of population encouraged extensive building operations; and in 1837 a large section of the Allison farm, north of Main street and east of Broadway, was laid out in streets and lots, by the owners of the tract, George S. and Michael Allison, and called the "Village of Warren." In the following year came the Garners to acquire and develop a small calico printing business that had been started by John Glass ten years before, but which had made little headway owing to the death of Mr. Glass, by an accident, in 1831. The steamboat era had begun and Mr. Glass was going to New York on the General Jackson, with a large quantity of goods from his mill, when the

steamboat exploded while yet lying at the wharf at Grassy Point, and Mr. Glass was among the fourteen persons killed. Success immediate and continuous attended the print works under the proprietorship of the Garners. The business established by Peck & Phelps, however, encountered such unfavorable tariff legislation in 1842 as to necessitate the closing of the rolling mill and the iron works. But from this misfortune the town recovered in 1844, when Higgins & Company leased buildings from Mr. Peck and carried forward a carpet manufacturing business that employed about two hundred and fifty hands. The total number of people employed by the factories of Garnerville and Sansondale in 1846 was nearly a thousand. The number of brickyards had increased to twenty-seven, which gave employment to 650 men during the season, manufactured seventy million brick, and consumed 10,800 cords of wood. The permanent population of the town was about three thousand. Two church edifices were in course of erection. The number of stores was twelve, and three steamboats carried freight and passengers from the village to New York. The manufacturing interests of the district were further diversified in 1848, when the Warren Foundry, then in West street, began operations, the proprietors being Myron Ward and Richard A. Vervae'n, and the product principally stoves and plows. Afterward the business was carried on on the river front, manufacturing brick machines.

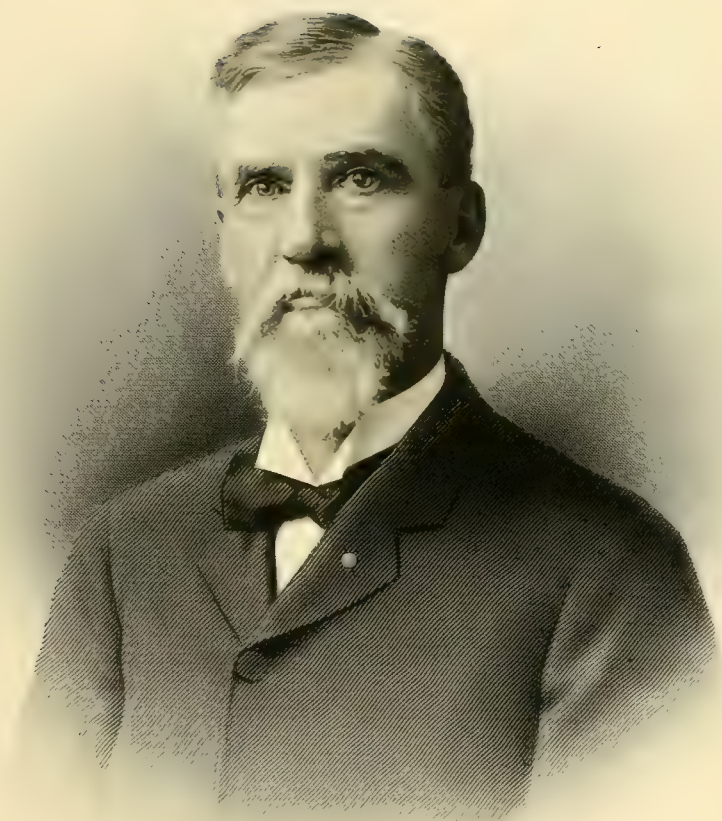
The Haverstraw of this era was depicted in a lecture entitled "Thirty Years in Haverstraw," delivered by the Rev. Amassa S. Freeman, D. D., in the Central Presbyterian Church January 1, 1878. From the manuscript of that lecture, with the permission of the family, through Mr. William A. Speck, the following paragraphs are taken:

"Of course the river flowed and the High Tor looked down upon us then as now. The steamboat landing was DeNoyelles & Gurnee's (the lower dock), of which only some spiles are now left. The store was the lower store at the head of the dock so long closed. There a large trade was driven by Capt. Edward DeNoyelles, John and Leonard Gurnee. Follow up Front street and how changed! Captain Edward DeNoyelles had lived for many years in the second house, now occupied by his widow. Then came Ralph Van Houten's, not greatly changed, for he and his wife celebrated a few years ago their golden wedding in the same house in which they were married. The house of the late Mrs. Martha

DeNoyelles, now occupied by John L., stood where it does now, though entirely remodeled. But above that the houses of Isaac Milburn, S. C. Blauvelt, Mr. Goldsmith, S. A. Vervalen, indeed all the way to Main street, how different. A few small houses were there, but some have been torn down, some rebuilt, some removed. Up by where Ira Hedges lives was the little school house of D. B. Loomis, which he occupied after leaving the Academy.

"From Martling's corner up Main street to the corner of First was a row of dilapidated wooden buildings. A fire swept them all away and it proved a public benefit, as more substantial buildings took their place. Follow up Main street (south side) and most of the buildings now standing, have been put up since. . . . The buildings on the north side also are almost entirely changed. . . . Following up Front street, above Main, the house which stood where Mr. Amos Briggs now lives was carried around into Broad street, and is now occupied by his son Charles. The next house, now occupied by Theodore Fredericks, on the same spot, is greatly altered. Where Mr. Kneuder lives, in a brick house built by Arnet Seaman, was a frame house occupied by Rev. James Hildreth, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, then on Calico hill. Mr. Hildreth's house was moved twice; first to the rear of the lot, then to where it now stands, next door to C. Briggs's, now the residence of John C. Coe. The present residence of Judge Suffern was then occupied by H. G. Prall, with an office in the southeast corner. It is nearly the only building on Main street or on Front that was there in 1846, that was not rebuilt.

"Almost all the village north of Main street, including Rockland, Broad, Division and Clinton, is new. In coming down from Garnerville, where in 1847 I used to board with Henry Garner of the Print Works, we used to drive across lots in front of this church to where Judge Suffern lives. There were a few, very few, houses in the neighborhood of the settlement about the old Catholic church. By the bridge as you approach Samsondale were the carpet works with one hundred looms of the Higgins brothers, afterwards removed to Forty-second street, New York. Most of the houses as you approach Garnerville have been built since then, though Benson's corner was much as now. On the corner opposite G. Benson's residence a store was then kept by Major John I. Suffern and Ephraetus Wheeler. On the hill, by the entrance to the res-



L. Hood

idence of John Peck (then his father, Elisha Peck's) stood the old First Presbyterian Church, a square, barn-like wooden building. There Dominic Pelton preached for many years, then Mr. Hildreth.

The greatest change in localities is in the road along shore from the village to Grassy Point. After crossing the railroad above Peck and Briggs's yard, we used to ascend a hill and ride on through a grove of beautiful trees. Part of the way up was what was called the Narrow Passage, a ravine where if two vehicles met, the one nearer the entrance must back out. Back of Grassy Point landing was a sloping bank, with gardens and shade trees, where now are pits. The road from the village to Grassy Point is something like a channel at Sandy Hook, where the sands shift so often that one needs always a pilot to carry him through. As to Grassy Point itself, I never saw the grass. It must have gone before I came here. At the Point the foundry of Mr. John Wiles is still carried on by his enterprising sons.

"Our route to New York in those days was by Piermont. Piermont was the eastern terminus of the Erie railroad, and large, heavy steamboats, the 'New Haven' and 'Iron Witch,' used in winter to force a passage through the ice. The western terminus of the road was then at Otisville, beyond Middletown. Charles B. Snedeker ran the stage to Piermont. I think by that route I introduced the first melodeon into Haverstraw, in the winter of 1847. Speaking of music, the Messenger of October, 1847, has the following: 'We take pleasure in announcing to our readers that a singing school has been opened in our village under the management of Mr. Heman B. McKenzie, choirister of the Methodist Church. The school will meet at the Academy on Monday evenings' In those days H. B. McKenzie in the M. E. and John S. Smith in this church used to start the tunes by the aid of tuning-forks. About this time (1847) the announcement is made of divine service according to the usage of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the Methodist house of worship, by Rev. W. F. Walker, missionary of the Rockland County Episcopal Mission. In 1849 the Haverstraw debating society for the first time proclaimed itself, and the following question was announced to be discussed, over Mr. J. King's paint shop: 'Is the acquisition of California a benefit to this country?'

"Among the advertisements during 1849 are James King, painter; H. Felter & Co., bakery; George S. Myers, stove and tin establishment;

George Anderson, stone cutter; W. Potter daguerrean, opposite Felter's bakery; Miss Benson, milliner; H. P. Cropsey, dry goods, successor to C. C. O. Blauvelt; Ezra Mead, A. A. Conkling, tailor; Jacob Stagg, Jacob Allison, blacksmithing, on Main street; William Bryne, bakery; Theodore Polhemus, carriage maker; C. A. Rand, Temperance House. . . . The opening of Warren Hall, in the second story of a building on Main street, now occupied by the Messrs. Penny, grocers, was an event of interest, followed by many pleasant evenings in connection with the Warren Lyceum. The store was then occupied by S. C. Blauvelt, who enlarged it and fitted up the second story as a hall, in 1854. There, on Saturday, Nov. 18, 1854, the Warren Lyceum was organized. A. E. Suffern was called to the chair; Edward Pye, secretary. A course of lectures was delivered that winter to large audiences.

"The physicians of thirty years ago were: Doctors Pratt, Govan, Whipple and Purdue, then Austin, Reeve, Dixon, Alexander, Sloat, Lilienthal, Ropeke, McKnight, Sargent, Reisberg, Springer, Taylor, Tanner, Allen, Owen, House, Chambre, Bogert, Stahl. Lawyers: H. G. Prall, Quentin McAdam, Edward Pye, David C. Ringland, A. E. Suffern, C. P. Hoffman, Spencer Weiant, J. H. Hopper, Ferris, L. V. E. Robinson, Robert Patton, Wheeler, Batchelder, Brown, G. R. Weiant, Cyrillus Myers.

"Where are they who trod our streets and who were the prominent citizens of this town thirty years ago? Most of them to-night are with the dead. 'The places that knew them know them no more!' Each one's memory can perform its own office and call up familiar faces of kindred and friends that are seen no longer among the living.

Mount Repose Cemetery was publicly set apart with appropriate ceremonies in July, 1853. We owe it to the active efforts of the Rev. J. C. Ayars that this beautiful spot at the foot of the mountains was selected. The opening prayer was by the Rev. W. H. Miller, address on the methods of burial by different nations by the Rev. James H. McFarland, then pastor of the M. E. Church. Other addresses were delivered by the Rev. Dr. Freeman and the Rev. J. C. Ayars, then of Jersey City. Closing prayer by the Rev. Hudson, of the Methodist Protestant Church. The Catholic Cemetery adjoining Mount Repose was opened in 1877.

The village of Haverstraw was incorporated in 1854 and was at first named Warren. The steps which led to this consummation were taken

at meetings of citizens in the latter part of the year 1853. A census of the inhabitants in December disclosed a population of 1,760 within the proposed boundaries, and a geographical survey gave an acreage of 493. On February 4th a petition, with a map annexed, was presented to the Court of General Sessions, praying for authority to incorporate. The petitioners were Henry P. Cropsey, Samuel C. Blauvelt, Abram DeBaun, Garret DeBaun, Lewis R. Mackey, John C. Coe, James Crenney, Daniel C. Springsteen, John DeBaun, Ezra Mead, A. Edward Suffern, Samuel A. Vervalen. The Court (County Judge William F. Frazer and Justices James Suffern and W. Dickenson) made an order granting the petition and setting apart the territory described as the Village of Warren, provided at a special election appointed for that purpose a majority of the electors indicated their approval. At the election, which was held on the 11th of March, 187 votes were cast in favor and only 8 against. The first village officers were chosen at an election held at the house of John Begg, April 8, 1854. The whole number of votes cast for Trustee was 751, of which Henry P. Cropsey received 87; Edward Pye 104; Henry M. Peck 87; George E. DeNoyelles 151; Richard A. Vervalen 144; Abram Marks 62; John S. Gurnee 64; Garret S. Storms 52. Messrs. DeNoyelles, Vervalen, Pye, Peck and Cropsey were declared elected. At the same time Isaac Sherwood was chosen Assessor; Samuel C. Blauvelt, Clerk; Isaac Milburn, Treasurer; George S. Meyers, Collector; Peter Titus, Poundmaster; William R. Lane, George S. Meyers and Walter Johnson, Fire Wardens.

The first meeting of the trustees was held on Wednesday evening, April 12, 1854. Edward Pye was chosen President of the Board. The first act of the board after organizing was to pass a series of ordinances intended for the preservation of public order and decency. One provided for proper respect to the Sabbath; another laid a prohibition against domestic animals running at large. Up to this time Haverstraw had no system for extinguishing fires, except that a few years before (January 28th) a hook and ladder company had been formed and some ladders and a truck to carry them had been bought for \$252.39, the money being subscribed at the organization meeting held in the ballroom of the American Hotel. There was a feeling of insecurity, and a general sentiment for better arrangement. In fact, a desire for a fire department had been one of the reasons for incorporating the village. Accordingly,

when the trustees next met, which was on April 24th, resolutions were passed ordering a special election to be held on May 17th, at which time the taxpayers were to vote for or against the following requisitions: (1) \$1,200 for a fire engine, hose carriage and 400 feet of hose; (2) \$300 for building three public cisterns; (3) \$500 for building an engine house; (4) \$15 for erecting a suitable pound. Sixty-five votes were cast at the election, all being in favor.

At the same election the property owners voted in favor of laying sidewalks in all the principal streets. Brick or flagstone was specified for Main street and brick, flagstone or two-inch plank for other streets.

A Board of Health, of which Cornelius Allison was chairman and Arnet Seaman secretary, began in July to hold weekly meetings. One of the first acts of this board was to instruct the Health Officer to inspect the condition of all tenements, and to direct the removal of all nuisances. The new fire-engine, with the hose carriage and hose, arrived in September.

These several improvements were the first fruits of incorporation. For the second year Edward Pye, H. M. Peck, Andrew DeBaun, Leonard Gurnee and Heman M. McKenzie were elected trustees. Isaiah Milburn was appointed Street Commissioner and George S. Myers Police Constable.

A survey of the streets of the village was ordered in March, 1856, and in June of the same year Main street was ordered to be graded and paved. In March, 1857, the taxpayers, upon the recommendation of the Board of Trustees, voted for the purchase of another fire engine, and appropriated \$300 for that purpose, together with \$400 for four hundred feet of hose. Four more public cisterns were constructed about the same time. The engine was bought, second-hand, in Newburgh, and received the name of Union Engine No. 2. A new fire company was organized to take charge of the machine, and Mr. McLauren's carpenter-shop was rented for fire quarters. The first members of this company were: Thomas D. Milderberger, Abram Felter, Abram C. VanHouten, William D. La Montanye, Abram Snieder, John Turnbull, Daniel DeNoyelles, M. M. Milderberger, E. M. Farrington, Wm. B. McLauren, William Felter, Isaac H. Duryea, John C. Coc, James Creny, Jr., Walter S. Johnson, Epenetus Jones, Herman Springsteen, Joseph Porter, A. V. B. Stagg, Abram Blauvelt, Levi D. West, John P. Jersey, Wm.

D. Furman, Harman Felter, John Treadway, Jacob R. Westervelt. Many others joined subsequently.

All the fire companies, the service being popular and affording means of social and physical exercise, obtained large membership rolls. The first members of Warren Engine Co. No. 1 (organized May 15, 1854) were: George Meyers, Foreman; H. VerValen, S. F. Requa, E. M. Farrington, W. W. Oldfield, G. W. Bullis, D. DeNoyelles, J. H. Miller, W. Searsby, G. W. Snedeker, G. Anderson, H. Staggs, W. Schank, S. G. Newman, S. Fowler, C. Ward, P. Schoonmaker, N. DeGroat, H. Jones, J. Glassy, J. Wescott, T. Brannan, T. Murphy, R. Mackerel, W. H. Fardon, John Phillips, James Serat, Michael Flynn, L. F. Williker.

A great event in 1857 was the laying of the corner-stone for a monument to General Wayne on Stony Point. It was the seventy-eighth anniversary of the battle. Orations were delivered by Rev. Amasa J. Paker, General Benjamin F. Butler, Erastus Brooks, A. B. Conger, Col. Scrugham and John Lawrence DeNoyelles. The monument has not yet been erected.

In February, 1858, the sum of \$1,000 was appropriated for buying a lot and building a house for Engine No. 2 and Hook and Ladder No. 1. Trustee John L. DeNoyelles reported the following month that he had bought a lot 25 by 100 feet, in Division street from George S. Allison, for \$300. On this lot an engine house, planned by John R. McKenzie, was erected.

Rescue Hook and Ladder Company was not at this time under the control of the village trustees, but was an independent and self-supporting company, having been organized previous to the incorporation of the village. But in April, 1859, by resolution of the trustees, the company was accepted and made a legal part of the village fire department, with the understanding that the debts against the company should be paid by the village. This was the company which had been organized on January 28th, 1854, at the American Hotel. The first members were: Asbury DeNoyelles, Foreman; James Crencey, Assistant Foreman; James King, Secretary; J. W. Edwards, Treasurer; Lewis R. Mackey, Samuel A. VerValen, Daniel C. Springsteen, Harman Felter, Edward Felter, William Felter, John Begg, John Felter, Isaiah Milburn, John Jones, I. Weiant Edwards, William R. Lane, William Sedell, (Captain) John Gaines (the champion skater of the Hudson),

Theodore Polhemus, William B. McLauren, Edgar Freeman, George E. DeNoyelles, Lewis S. Whitaker, Edward Peck, Silas G. Mackey, Matthew Rose, Aaron E. Milburn, Garret S. Storms, James Glassy, Jackson Rose, James Hazard, Jacob Allison, John P. Jersey, Theodore Fredericks, Stephen Fields, Abram D. VerValen, Nathaniel Cooper, John Cosgrove, Denton Fowler, Phillip Schoonmaker, Bradley Keesler, James Creney, Jr.

Chief Engineers for the fire department were first elected in 1859 (May 10), under a special act of the Legislature passed February 14th of that year. Samuel A. VerValen was elected Chief Engineer, W. W. Oldfield, First Assistant, and Benjamin Felter, Second Assistant.

The Board of Trustees had no standing committees until 1858, when the members were divided into the following committees: On Streets, Fire, Village Ordinances, Police and Finance. When the board, in 1858, desiring to build a lock-up, asked for an appropriation of \$200, the taxpayers voted the measure down. The first meetings of the Board of Trustees were held at the office of President Pye, afterward at the office of his successor, Cornelius Hoffman, later at the United States Hotel, then at the house of Rescue Hook and Ladder Company and afterward in Osborn Hall. Illuminating gas was introduced in the village in 1859, by H. A. Haughwout & Co., of New York, who received permission from the Trustees to construct works and lay pipes, but the corporation did not use the gas for street lamps until 1870. An important work taken up in 1860 was the improvement of the Short Clove road, by cutting down the grade to 12 1/2 per cent. The cost was \$1,600, which was paid in the course of two years.

OFF TO WAR.

When the rebel guns opened fire against Fort Sumter, the North sprang to arms. In Haverstraw a mass meeting of the friends of the Union was instantly called, and on the evening of April 22, 1861, the Wigwam was crowded to the doors and rang with the patriotic cheers of loyal Americans. General George S. Allison, was the chairman and John I. Cole the secretary of the meeting. War speeches were delivered, and subscriptions were asked to a fund to assist the families of volunteers. The following named were appointed a committee to take charge of the fund and disburse it: H. M. Peck, Alex. Waldron, Rev. P.

Mahoney, Rev. Dr. Crane, Alexander Davidson, Rev. F. L. King, Rev. J. J. Smith, Rev. A. S. Freeman, General G. S. Allison, John L. DeNoyelles, William Call, John W. Felter. The sum of \$3,335 was subscribed at the meeting and all through the war funds continued to flow into this committee or its successors from various sources. Enlistment rolls were opened the next day, and many of Haverstraw's young men came forward and signed. Two representative companies were raised in the village and town. One took the name first of the Warren Rifles and afterward of the DeNoyelles Guards and chose Edward Pye, a lawyer and former President of the village, for captain. The other company was called the Stephens Guards, and chose for officers Captain A. F. Ingold, Lieut. A. S. Gurnee and Lieut. J. H. Weaver.

The DeNoyelles Guards were the first to march away. On the last Sabbath evening before their departure, they proceeded to the Central Presbyterian Church, to attend divine service. It was an occasion as solemn as it was memorable. Four of the village clergymen occupied the pulpit and the house was filled with the relatives and friends of the volunteers. The Rev. Messrs. Marsh of the First Presbyterian Church, Crane of the Methodist Church, Hepburn of the Episcopal Church, and Dr. Freeman participated in the exercises. Dr. Freeman, in his address, said: "A strange sight greets our eyes to-day in this house of God. What neither you nor I ever expected to see. Here are soldiers enlisted for war. A war in our own land. You go to fight, if need be. Yet not to destroy, but to save. To save our country and to preserve for yourselves and for us dear-bought privileges, to maintain our government and that Union under which we were born, and in which we have enjoyed such blessings. And we have met to speak some parting words to you, my friends, who go forth to maintain the Constitution and the laws of your country. . . . You go as our representatives. I need not repeat the assurances of our interest in your welfare. This vast congregation testifies it. This union of many religious societies and Christian hearts testifies it, and these earnest words addressed to you, expressing the feelings of all who are present, echo it. . . . Some of you we have long known. Some are comparative strangers. You are of different nationalities and of different religious faiths. But we forget all other differences to-day in the thought that you go to engage in a common cause for our nation's defence. May God go with you all; keep and preserve

you and bring you back in safety. . . . I take the liberty of presenting as a slight token of the interest I feel the camp library and packages of tracts, for your reading in the camp. You will find among them memoirs of Christian soldiers who served God while serving their country. Permit me to say also that the Sabbath school of this church, moved by the fact that one of its teachers and two or three of his class are members of this company, expressed a desire this morning to present to each soldier of this company a pocket copy of the New Testament. I shall see that you receive them”

The Rev. Dr. Crane, of the M. E. Church, spoke in part as follows: “Half a million men are rallying for the battle, and you are among them. With uplifted hands you have each of you called God to witness that you will perform faithfully the duty of an American soldier. Before you lies the tented field and war’s magnificently stern array. When the hour of return shall come,—and who shall behold it?—God alone can tell. But this we know, it is war and not a holiday parade that calls you forth. You think of the martial plain glistening far and wide with arms, and yet dark with its tens of thousands rushing to the conflict. You hear in fancy the thunders of the cannonade, you feel the earth tremble beneath the tramp of legions dashing onward in the charge; you hear the exultant shouts of victory, thrilling you with a soldier’s joy. . . . Go then, soldiers, where duty calls, not led by love of adventure, not with hearts of malice or hate, or with vain ambition; but with souls filled with the might of great purpose, a holy cause, whose altar is worthy of the sacrifice of blood, which a nation now lays upon it. And may the divine presence, like Israel’s cloud and pillar of fire, go with you, pointing out the way, that you may prosper therein; and in due season return in peace to the friends who now with prayers and tears yield you up; return with souls unstained by the vices of the camp, to spend lives of usefulness and honor in the land which your own right arms have aided in saving from dishonor and ruin.”

On the morrow, at the Wigwam, a flag was presented to the company by the ladies of the village, the Rev. Dr. Freeman making the presentation address. Captain Pye in responding promised for his comrades to bring back the flag or leave their bodies with it on the field. The occasion, he added, was not one simply for talk, or glory or banners,

but at such an hour it was becoming to recognize one higher than earthly friends, and he called upon the Rev. Dr. Crane to close the proceedings with prayer.

The next morning the company started, a multitude going before and following after, with music and cheers. At the landing the volunteers boarded the steamer Isaac P. Smith and on arriving at New York, were assigned to quarters in the "Red House." As part of the Ninety-fifth New York Volunteers, they were thereafter known as Company F.

The members of the company at this time were: John Abbott, W. E. Ackerman,* Frederick C. Adams, James Agnew, William Allison,* Samuel W. Babcock, James P. Babcock, John Barry, John Blower, John Brooks, Daniel Brooks, P. Broderick, Edw. Burke, B. B. Buno,* Nicholas Call, Lorenzo D. Conklin,* John Coleman, Matthew Connelly, James Cornelison, William M. Cosgrove, James Creney, Peter D. Bevoise, Hugh Doyle, P. DeNoyelles, John F. DeNoyelles, J. De La Montanye, Charles Dolson, William M. Frazer, F. A. Fletcher, Levi Frederick, Fenton, Gardner, Adam Glassing, Francis M. Gurnee, Thos. Hastings, Ira M. Hedges, Jesse B. Hedges, William Herrod, James Holden, W. C. Hinman,* John W. King, Charles E. Knapp, Daniel E. Knapp,* J. N. Knapp, Enos Jersey, Elihu Jones, James Larkin, James Luke, S. G. Mackey, John M. Guirk, John McDonald, Marshall Nye, Abram Odell, P. M. Osborn, John Palmer, Joseph Peck,* John Phillips,* Edwin Phillips, William H. Phillips, Edward Pye,* Jacob J. Rose, Patrick Ryan, R. J. Seeley, Abram Snedeker, John H. Smith, Richard O. Smith, William G. Smith,* William C. Slack, William L. Sherwood, George Stammers,* John Stalter, William Scott, John J. Titus, Seth Terry, Charles G. Turner, Edwin Thompson, R. D. Trap-hagen, Richard Welch, Edward Weiant, William H. Wright.

The Stephens Guards changed their headquarters to the Wigwam after the departure of the first company. On the 21st of November they left, by the steamer *Metamora*, from Bogert's Wharf, for New York, cheered away by a multitude of friends, and on arriving at the city went into camp with the Ninety-fifth New York as Company B. The members of this company at this time were: Isaac Aiken, Morgan Brewster, Daniel B. Brewster, William Benson, Charles Bostedo, William Fales, A. S. Gurnee, Theo. Hammond, James M. Hill, John Hud-

* Died in the service.

son, A. F. Ingold, Isaac Knapp, George Knapp, Bradley Keesler, James Lent, Jesse Monroe, James McCormack, Charles W. Osborn,* William Thorn, George Phillips, William Phillips, Theo. Stalter, Joseph Stammers,* Richard Smith, Winfield Springsted, John Seeley, Charles Waldron, J. H. Weaver, Alexander Weiant, William Weiant.

Company F, being permitted to return home for a few days at Thanksgiving, attended service on the fast day at the Central Presbyterian Church. After the sermon a flag, the gift of John L. DeNoyelles, was brought in and presented to the company, the Rev. Dr. Freeman making the presentation address. On December 5th Dominick Kennedy left Haverstraw with twenty-seven more members for the Ninety-fifth and later Lieut. S. W. Babcock recruited for the same regiment. In all, first and last, about two hundred men from Haverstraw enlisted in the Ninety-fifth.

The regiment remained in camp at Harlem, waiting for the ranks to be filled, until February 20th, 1862, and then at New Dorp, Staten Island, until March 18th, when it started for Washington with nine hundred men. It was organized on March 6th, and George H. Biddle, who had been active in the work of recruiting, was commissioned colonel. Six of the companies were raised in New York city, two in Haverstraw, one in Sing Sing and one in Westchester county. Arriving in Washington March 19th, 1862, the regiment was placed in General Wadsworth's command and stationed at Camp Thomas. After a short stay at the Capital, it crossed the Potomac into Virginia and encamped at Aqua creek. In May, 1862, it was assigned to Doubleday's brigade, with which it served in Pope's campaign. It was first under fire at Gainsville, Va., August 28th; this was one of the engagements connected with the Second Battle of Bull Run. The same day the Ninety-fifth took part in the fighting at Groveton, and on the 30th it was under fire again. The losses of the regiment in this battle were 23 killed and wounded and 90 missing or captured, a total of 113. Many of the missing were also killed or wounded.

Under the reorganization of the army following Pope's defeat and retirement, Doubleday's brigade became the Second in the First Division, First Corps, and was composed of the Seventh Indiana, Twenty-Sixth New York, Ninety-Fifth New York and Fifty-Sixth Pennsylva-

* Died in the service.



WILLIAM MCCAULEY.

nia. A participant in the Maryland campaign, the regiment, then under the command of Major Edward Pye, fought in the great battles of South Mountain and Antietam, but came through with slight casualties. At Fredericksburgh, December 23, 1862, where Colonel Biddle commanded, the regiment lay under a heavy artillery fire, and sustained a loss of one killed and three wounded. From this field the army went into winter quarters, the First Corps near Belle Plain, on Aqua creek. At Gettysburgh the Ninety-Fifth had 291 present. As part of Reynolds' (the First) corps, it engaged the enemy soon after ten o'clock on the morning of the first day's fighting, and at the Railroad Cut, with the aid of the Eighty-sixth New York and the Sixth Wisconsin, repulsed a large part of Davis's Mississippi brigade. At noon the regiment held a position at Oak Hill, and when outflanked moved to the right of the Seminary, where it supported Battery B of the Fourth U. S. Artillery. On the second and third days of the great battle the regiment was posted on Culp's Hill. Casualties, 7 killed, 62 wounded, 46 missing.

Col. Biddle and Lieut.-Col. Post resigned in October, 1863, when Major Pye was commissioned colonel and Captain James Creney lieutenant-colonel. The regiment after participating in the Mine Run affair, Nov. 26-Dec. 2, went into winter quarters in comfortable cabins near Culpepper, Va. The most of the original members re-enlisted and went home on a veteran furlough. In May, 1864, having received some recruits, the Ninety-Fifth started on the long and bloody campaign under Grant's leadership. In the Wilderness it lost 18 killed, 64 wounded, 92 missing or captured. The Confederates captured all of Company E and parts of Companies A and I. At Spottsylvania our regiment lost 6 killed, 51 wounded, 8 missing. At North Anna, 1 killed and 6 wounded. At Bethesda Church, 1 killed and 11 wounded. It was at Bethesda Church (Cold Harbor, May 30-31,) that Colonel Pye received his mortal wound. He died ten days later, mourned as a manly and efficient officer. Lieut.-Colonel Creney was severely wounded at Petersburg, and then the command devolved upon Major Robert W. Bard. At the battle of Weldon Railroad the Ninety-Fifth lost 6 killed, 20 wounded, 52 captured. Colonel Creney rejoined the regiment in the latter part of August. Such had been the ravages of battle, only 213 men remained in the ranks. The last battles of the Ninety-fifth were Gravelly Run (March 31, 1865) and Five Forks, on the following day. Under the

command of Captain George D. Knight the regiment went into action at Five Forks 94 strong. Its casualties in the two days' fighting were 4 killed, 63 wounded and 9 missing. The noble remnant, as part of the Fifth Corps, pressed on in pursuit of Lee's retreating army and was in at the finish. When the roll of the regiments was called at Appomattox after Lee's surrender the gallant old Ninety-Fifth answered proudly, Here! On July 16, 1865, the regiment was mustered out.

The body of Col. Pye was sent home, and was buried from the Central Presbyterian Church, on Wednesday, June 15th. The flag which the ladies of Haverstraw had presented to his company, and which had been carried with honor in many battles, was draped over his coffin. "He went forth at the call of his country," said Dr. Freeman in his eulogy. "I believe he was conscientious in going. . . . By merit he rose until he was appointed colonel of the regiment. In a letter I received from him, he said, 'God has mercifully preserved me. What purpose He has in store for me I know not. If I fall I only desire that my wife and children may never have cause to blush at my record, and that I may through Christ's merit fall a true soldier of the cross, as well as a valiant soldier of my country.'" He was buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, Nyack.

On the field of Gettysburgh there stands a monument to the Ninety-Fifth New York that was dedicated on July 1, 1893. Hon. Ira M. Hedges, in the dedicatory address said: "The small number here present are a majority of all that now remain. Many battlefields attest your bravery, your patriotism and your loyalty. For a moment let us indulge a thought and drop a tear in memory of the loved and the fallen. How we all honor and revere the memory of Colonel Pye, Generals Doubleday, Rice Cutler, Wadsworth, Newton, Reynolds, Meade and Grant, under whom we fought. This is the thirtieth anniversary of the terrific contest which took place on these grounds. How well do we recall the hot July day in 1863, when we stood where we now stand. But, oh, under what different circumstances! What changes have thirty years wrought. Then we were in the pride and vigor of our early manhood, and now the heads of all about me are whitened with the frosts of years. How well do we recall the rapid march from Marsh Run that morning; how as we reached the town we realized that hot work was before us that day, when we heard the guns of Buford's cavalry; and we came up near to the old cemetery yonder, when the order to double quick was given.

. . . Regiments, brigades and divisions came from all directions, and for a time it seemed as if the old First Army Corps (of which we are all so justly proud) would be annihilated. How nearly the Ninety-fifth and Fourteenth (Brooklyn) came to being flanked from our position, and the change of front we made under fire; how we charged across the plain to a point at this railroad cut! In this charge Corporal Ackerman and William F. Smith, of Company F, as well as a number of others now here assembled, fell. Smith was killed and now fills one of the graves on yonder hillside marked 'Unknown.' Ackerman fell mortally wounded and died two days later. Here at this spot you will recall the fact of our capture of almost the entire Mississippi brigade. . . . Our names will soon be forgotten, but the imperishable records of your deeds will live. Hallowed indeed is the sacred spot. Here rest peacefully our young comrades, who marched and bivouacked with us, willingly giving their lives that, in the words of the immortal Lincoln, 'the government of the people by the people for the people should not perish from the earth.' "

During the war the public means and energies of Haverstraw town and village were mainly devoted to the support of the Union cause. All public interest was absorbed in this. When volunteering ceased, drafting began. In 1863 the firemen of the village formed an association, into the treasury of which each member paid \$50, with the understanding that the fund would be used to release such members as should be drafted. In September of that year the village trustees, agreeably to a vote of the taxpayers, contributed \$900 to the firemen's fund. On April 1, 1864, the Town Board, at a meeting in the office of Judge Suffern, resolved that the Supervisors should raise money sufficient to pay for 120 volunteers, toward filling the quota of the town, and it was further resolved to raise \$38,000 on the credit of the town. Later in the same year the same board raised \$75,000 more, "to pay bounties, incidental expenses of volunteering, and relief of families." The Supervisor was authorized to pay \$275 to any person who should volunteer, and any taxpayer who should furnish a substitute under the call for 700,000 troops, or any call thereafter, was assured that he should be assessed \$275 out of the town fund. The Town also offered to pay each drafted man who served in person the same bounty as was paid to substitutes and volunteers. Afterwards the Town increased the bounty to \$300.

Noble instances of self-sacrificing patriotism characterized in this town and village the long national crisis. The sons and brothers on the firing line were ever kept in mind, the prayers of congregations and home circles followed them, together with boxes of clothing and other supplies contributed by the women's associations.

Some years after the ending of the conflict village improvements were resumed. The grades of Main and Front streets near the old U. S. Hotel were cut down in 1868; Wayne street was extended through from Clinton in 1870; night watchmen were first appointed in 1870; a lot in Middle street, north side, next east of the German Lutheran Church, was purchased for \$600, as a site for a new engine house and reservoir in 1871; a steam fire engine, "Lady Warren," was also purchased in 1871. Fire limits were first set in 1874, and the erecting of any other than brick, stone or iron structures within the limits was prohibited thenceforth. As the village, though officially called "Warren," was commonly called "Haverstraw," the name was changed to Haverstraw in 1874; the record of the action in the village books is dated April 14. In 1876 the steam fire engine was rebuilt at a cost of \$1,500; in the same year Mutual Hose Company was organized, and the carriage of Lady Warren company was assigned to the charge of the new company.

The Haverstraw Library and Reading Room Association was a noteworthy public movement of the year 1873. Its object as the title implied was to establish and maintain a library, reading room, literary and scientific lectures and classes. A copy of the constitution and by-laws in the possession of Mr. W. A. Speck has annexed thereto the names of the first officers and directors, as follows: President, George H. Smith; First Vice President, Silas Gardner; Second Vice President, Ira M. Hedges; Recording Secretary, Hendrick D. Batchelder; Corresponding Secretary, Henry C. Vervalen; Treasurer, Theodore Gardner; Directors, Richard A. VerValen, Lavelette Wilson, Hendrick D. Batchelder, Denton Fowler, Theo. Gardner, Ira M. Hedges, Rev. A. S. Freeman, Charles Brockaway, John R. McKenzie, John Derbyshire, Levi D. West, Isaiah M. Gardner, A. E. Suffern, George H. Smith, James F. Green.

In 1878 the Board of Engineers of the Fire Department reported the Village Trustees that they had set about perfecting the discipline of the department, and to carry out the new system they had rented a

room in the U. S. Hotel building as a headquarters for the firemen, or as a central point from which to develop operations. "That alone has created an interest in the department," they said, "and caused a number who were about to resign to remain. Again, the Board has adopted a system, as follows: To be at least four parades each year, namely three inspections and one dress parade. Our first inspection parade occurred on the afternoon of May 30, 1878. We need not inform you of the severe storm that prevailed on that day, but despite the inclemency of the weather, the whole department was anxious for the test. The engine companies were massed in front of St. Luke's Church, and at a signal or alarm from the bell of the M. E. Church the several companies repaired to their respective houses, and thence with their apparatus to the several cisterns, in conjunction with the head of Main street. Each company laid four hundred feet of hose, adjusted its pipe, and passed water through the same. This system demonstrates the efficiency of our department, for in less than four minutes after an alarm the companies can be forcing water on a fire. We next put Rescue Hook and Ladder Company through a similar test, starting at the old Post Office (Sherwood building) on an alarm from the same bell. The members of the company ran to their house, and thence with their truck to the United States Hotel, where they shipped two ladders and raised them to the upper stoop; a member of the company ascended to the top with a Babcock fire extinguisher (borrowed) and started operations, all within considerable less than four minutes. Thus, you can perceive that our apparatus is all in good condition and every member in readiness to do his duty when called upon."

Mutual Hose Company No. 1. was disbanded for neglect of duty, September 2, 1878, and authority for a new hose company to be known as Triumph Hose No. 1, and attached to the steamer Lady Washington, was issued by the Village Trustees September 25 of the same year. The following were elected members on the recommendation of the Board of Engineers: Daniel De N. DeGroat, John Bernhart, Henry F. Dorl, Cyrillus Fredericks, William Applegate, Charles Rockwell, William Duryea, Robert Bell, Sylvester S. Wood, John Fredericks, Warren Kingsland, George B. Weyant, Charles Nicolls, Frederick Abrams.

In 1879 the Trustees appropriated, with the consent of the taxpayers, \$1,300 for a new house for Rescue Hook and Ladder Company.

The contracts for building were awarded to John W. Babcock and John Carson.

In 1880 a new hose carriage was ordered from Rumsey & Co., at a cost of \$750, and in December, 1881, the Engineers were directed to reorganize General Warren Engine Company No. 1. The sum of \$1,000 was appropriated in 1882, by a special election in March, for the building of a new house for General Warren Engine Company No. 1.

WATER SUPPLY.

Not yet had a general water supply been introduced into the village, but a serious fire on July 31, 1882, was the indirect cause of the turning of public attention to the deficiency. Following the fire the Board of Engineers, in a communication to the Board of Trustees, urged that a steam fire engine and more hose be purchased, and that a "further supply of water" be secured for fire purposes. A numerous signed petition from taxpayers being presented at the same time, the Trustees appropriated \$5,000 for the purchase of a steamer and two thousand feet of hose, subject to the approval of the taxpayers at a special election called for September 25th. Before the election could be held the question was raised in the public press if it would not be wiser to invest the public money in works that would not only furnish a pressure of water for fire purposes but also a supply for household use, and such was the change in public opinion that a resolution was passed by the Trustees on September 15th, rescinding the resolution to raise money for engine and hose, and on the motion of Trustee D. C. Springsteen a committee with three members was appointed to ascertain where water could be procured to supply the village and the cost of piping it through the streets. President Osborn appointed as such committee Trustees D. C. Springsteen, William Keesler and Farrel Redmond, who on October 11th reported in part as follows:

"The committee appointed by the Board of Trustees to examine into the feasibility of bringing water into the village, together with the probable cost of the same, have after a careful examination of various sources from which water can be obtained, decided to make their report: They find that to bring water from the Tunnel would be attended with many difficulties on account of the nature of the cutting and filling on the line of the laying of the pipe, it being almost impossible to cover the pipe so

as to protect it from the frost. Also, the difficulty and expense of constructing a reservoir, together with the uncertainty of an unfailing supply, and these difficulties would not warrant the expense." The committee further reported that they had considered the advisability of bringing water from the springs in the Fowler and DeNoyelles properties by means of pumping, and deemed the plan objectionable on account of the heavy expense of providing and operating a pumping plant. The stream in the Sharpe valley, at the southerly end of the Garret J. Allison lot, "was considered unsuitable because of inadequate flow in dry seasons as well as insufficient elevation. The stream which the committee recommended as a source of supply, "has its headwaters," to quote the language of the report, "up at John Springsteen's, and winding its way down through the valley south of Mead's Corners, it is enlarged by the water from several springs on the property of Springsteen, Allison and Mrs. John S. Gurnee." The estimated quantity of water found running at the place where a supply would be taken from the main stream and led into the reservoir was about eight hundred hogsheads in twenty-four hours. A reservoir, if constructed in the valley south of and near the residence of Mrs. John S. Gurnee, would have an elevation of about one hundred and sixty feet above the river. The committee believed that an adequate supply could be obtained here, estimated the cost of conducting the water into the village and through the principal streets at about sixteen or seventeen thousand dollars, and recommended the construction of public works.

The necessary authorization was not, however, obtained, and the subject slumbered until April 24, 1884, when in a communication to the Trustees, John Lockwood, Daniel Van Allen, John C. Lockwood, George William Ballou, Theodore M. Nevins, H. S. Ogden and C. A. Lockwood stated that they proposed to form a water works company in the village pursuant to an act of the Legislature passed June 12, 1873, with a proposed capital stock of \$50,000, divided into five hundred shares of one hundred dollars each, and that the water would be obtained from streams in the village. They asked and at once received permission to lay pipes through the village, upon condition that the works be completed by Nov. 1, 1885. But as nothing was done within the specified period, the franchise was extended to June 1, 1886. Mr. Lockwood and his associates, having organized as the Haverstraw Water Com-

pany, now asked permission to supply the village from driven or open wells, and the request was granted upon condition that the company should furnish water to dwellings or tenement houses at the rate of ten dollars a year, for the first faucet, and for each additional faucet not exceeding two dollars per annum. The construction work now proceeded rapidly and in May, 1886, the Trustees offered the water company the sum of \$1,200 per year for all the water the corporation might need for fire purposes, forty hydrants to be available as a first installment, and additional ones to be erected by the village when desired. The company put in operation within the specified time a driven well system with a pumping station at D. Fowler's brickyard, and with a water tower or tank at the foot of the mountain at the head of West street. The bonds of the company were mostly placed with New York bankers.

To meet an increased demand for water which the wells then in use could not supply, the West Haverstraw Water Company was then organized in 1889, and new works were constructed on the gravity plan, the source of supply being running springs at Theill's. The new works were established as a separate concern, but under the same ownership as the Haverstraw system. The pumping station and wells at Haverstraw were then abandoned, and that village, together with West Haverstraw and Garnerville, was supplied by the water from Theill's. When this source of supply became inadequate to supply the increasing demand, the Stony Point Water Company was incorporated, which was in 1892, and additional works were constructed on Cedar Pond Creek, in the town of Stony Point, by which means the incorporated village of Stony Point and the fire district of Grassy Point were also supplied, and a connection made through the brickyard district with Haverstraw village. In 1901 the works were enlarged by the construction of two more reservoirs, with a capacity of three million gallons, and by the installation of new pumping machinery at Stony Point. The present facilities of the company, with three plants combined in one, will be sufficient for some years to come.

In 1901 the three companies aforementioned went into the hands of John B. Reynolds, president of the American Equipment Company, of New York, as receiver. A reorganization committee representative of the bond-holders and headed by Colonel H. A. V. Post of New York city, formulated the plan by which the three corporations were, on April

9, 1902, consolidated in one, and named the Haverstraw Water Supply Company. The three systems were all constructed by John Lockwood & Son, who continued to manage the business by reason of owning a majority of the stock, until the appointment of the receiver, following the failure of the old companies to pay the interest on their bonds. Receiver Reynolds was elected president of the new company and Martin A. Driscoll superintendent.

The company now has in service a pumping station with four reservoirs at Stony Point, besides one reservoir at Theill's that is supplied by springs. The pumping plant consists of one Worthington steam pump capable of discharging 1,500,000 gallons a day and a turbine (water power) pump with a capacity of 1,000,000 gallons a day. The steam pump is used only in dry seasons, or when there is a scarcity of water. Two of the reservoirs at Stony Point have an elevation of 260 feet above the river. The force of water in Haverstraw village is such that no fire engines are required. A ten-inch main, two miles in length, extending from Stony Point to Haverstraw and connecting all the systems, was laid in 1901. The total length of mains is twenty miles.

WHEN THE WEST SHORE RAILROAD CAME.

With the opening of the West Shore Railroad to travel, in 1883, a distinct era of progress began for the Haverstraw villages. Within a few years a number of new streets were laid out through the western part of the village, and many dwellings, handsome and spacious, were built thereon. Fairmount avenue, extending from West street to the railroad, a distance of 1190 feet, was dedicated to the village by Catherine Ann Hedges, and accepted by the Trustees in August, 1883. New Main street having been opened through lands of Clarence R. Conger, George S. Sherwood and William Sherwood, was conveyed to the village and accepted by the Trustees in 1885. The New Jersey and New York railroad was extended from Garnerville to its present terminus at Main street in 1887. On June 4th, 1889, C. R. Conger and wife presented to the Trustees an agreement dedicating the following streets to the village: First, that portion of Tor avenue which extends from the westerly line of West street, or Broadway, to the easterly line of Hudson avenue, the same being 908 feet in length and 50 in width. Second, that portion of Hudson avenue which lies between the northerly portion

of Tor avenue and the lands of the said parties of the first part and the lands of Emily DeNoyelles, the same being 1,916 feet in length by 60 in width. Third, a portion of Clove avenue that lies between the northerly side of Main street and the southerly side of Broad, the same being 240 feet in length and 50 in width. Fourth, the southerly half or portion of a street called West Broad street, to the easterly line of Hudson avenue. On the same date James Eckerson and J. Esler Eckerson dedicated the northerly half of a portion of West Broad street. William McCauley offered to convey to the village those portions of Hudson avenue, Sharpe and Prospect streets which ran over the respective properties of Mrs. Emily DeNoyelles and Mrs. Elizabeth R. Doncourt. All these thoroughfares were accepted by the village.

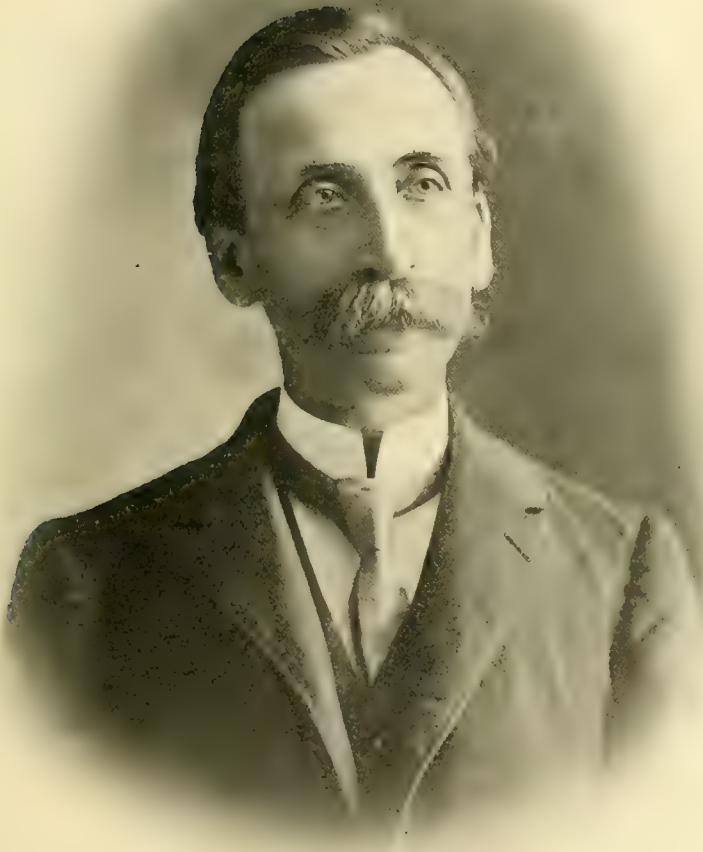
Building operations were brisk during these years. In 1896 the National Bank erected a new building, and in 1900 the new People's Bank building was completed.

The telephone came in 1884, when the Westchester Telephone Company received permission to erect and maintain poles and wires for a system in connection with surrounding villages.

The first Police Justice, William P. Banigan, was elected in 1886, and the salary of the officer fixed at \$500 a year. A noteworthy contribution to the public welfare was made in 1886, when Mr. William Bennett spread five hundred loads of gravel on Broadway at his own expense. Portions of Division and Liberty streets and Allison avenue were discontinued, and a street opened by John Derbyshire on his own property was accepted by the Trustees, in 1887. First street south of Canal was discontinued in May, 1888. Following the election of Mr. Charles H. Zundel to the Presidency of the Village Corporation, in 1890, many improvements to sidewalks were made.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.

John Lockwood and his associates, in August, 1887, were the first to make application for permission to install an electric light and power plant in the village. They received a franchise limited to a term of five years, on condition that they should furnish free of charge for one year five incandescent lamps for Main street. When more than a year had passed without Lockwood & Co. making a visible attempt to establish an electric system, the franchise was withdrawn (October 9, 1888) by



JOHN W. FURMAN.

the Trustees from Lockwood & Co. and granted to the Electric Light and Supply Company. This company also failing to produce results, Irving Brown and associates, in March, 1889, petitioned for permission to install an electric plant. William P. Bannigan also asked for permission to introduce electricity. But the Trustees granted no franchise at that time, and in July, 1890, a request from the Fort Wayne Electric Company for a franchise was also tabled. In December, 1890, a committee of four Trustees was appointed to ascertain particulars relating to the cost of introducing an electric light system, which resulted in the appearance before the Board on January 20, 1891, of Benjamin B. Odell, Jr., of Newburgh, to ask the exclusive right and franchise for an electric light and power company. At the same meeting the N. Y. & N. J. Globe Gaslight Company made application for a franchise for a lighting system. The taxpayers at a special election in March indicated their preference for electric rather than gasoline lights, and in due time an electric system was installed by the company represented by Mr. Odell.

The ownership of the gas works, originally a co-partnership, changed hands several times until 1894, when the present Haverstraw Light and Fuel Gas Company was formed. Alexander Forhman of New York was president and his son secretary and treasurer. These gentlemen disposed of their interests in 1899, and Henry Hahn of Haverstraw was elected president, Mr. Constant of New York secretary and treasurer and Mr. Widenmann managing director. The plant was then much enlarged, and in 1902 was extended to West Haverstraw and Garnerville. The generating works are situated on Clove and Tor avenues. Gas is furnished for light, fuel and power.

The new house for General Warren Company was finished in December, 1883; Union Engine Company No. 2 was disbanded by order of the Trustees, for disorderly conduct, April 8, 1884. A new hook and ladder truck was received and accepted in June, 1887; it was built by Gleason & Bailey and cost \$1,000. The annual report of the Chief Engineer, William Bonnett, for 1888, exhibited the condition of the Fire Department at that period: The membership consisted of four engineers and one hundred and three firemen. There was one hook and ladder truck, two hose carriages—Triumph No. 1 and General Warren No. 2—one steamer, 3 two-wheeled hose carts, one two-wheeled cart for carrying fire extinguishers, and attached to Rescue H. & L. Com-

pany, one hand engine in reserve, with no company, thirteen hundred feet of hose and forty-five hydrants. The Chief recommended that the steamer be disposed of and a new hose carriage procured for the company then attached to the steamer, and that the property in Division street be sold and a new house built for the company now occupying the old house. Acting on the advice of the Chief, the services of an engineer for the steamer were dispensed with by order of the Trustees, in April. The water pressure and supply from the water works being adequate in all parts of the village, the steamer was no longer needed. The property in Division street was sold August 10, 1888, to John W. Gillies for \$1,150, and in April of the following year a lot on Broadway, for a new fire house, was purchased from George S. Sherwood for \$1,000.

Town and village officers in 1902 are as follows: Town—Supervisor, Josiah Felter; Clerk, William V. Cleary; Overseer of the Poor, L. W. Serven; Collector, G. W. Mitch; Assessors, D. Farley, J. Lynch, George Mardorf; Justices, L. J. Murray, Cyrillus Myers, James Hartt, B. J. McGovern. Village of Haverstraw—President, Charles H. Zundel; Trustees, Thomas Lynch, Louis Cohn, William H. Bennett, Henry Furman, Charles D. Archer, Frederick J. Keiser; Clerk, Henry Dorl; Collector, Charles Freyfogle; Street Commissioner, William Benson; Treasurer, Luke Segriff; Assessors, Thomas Rowan, James Gourley, William Bacon; Members of Board of Education, Alonzo Wheeler, president; Henry F. Dorl, George C. Felter, James Hartt, Wilson P. Foss, William R. Pitts, Charles H. Zundel, Thomas Rowan, Everett Fowler, Members of the Board of Health, John E. Lynch, Frederick Bonnett, Charles S. Sloat. Village of West Haverstraw—President, Dr. John M. Hasbrouck; Clerk, Bernard J. McGovern; Collector, George H. Girling; Treasurer, George H. Taylor; John Oldfield, Daniel Farley, Trustees.

Presidents of Haverstraw Village since incorporation: 1854-5, Edward Pye; 1856, Cornelius P. Hoffman; 1857, John I. Cole; 1858-'65, John L. DeNoyelles; 1866, Joseph Cosgrove; 1867-9, John L. DeNoyelles; 1870, Harrison Felter; 1871-4, Richard A. VerValen; 1875-6, James Osborn; 1877-8, John L. DeNoyelles; 1879-'81, James Osborn; 1882-4, R. A. VerValen; 1885-9, Rodney W. Milburn; 1890-5, Charles Zundel; 1896, Joseph Snedeker; 1897-9, William Bonnett; 1900-1, Alonzo Bedell; 1902, Charles H. Zundel.

BRICK MAKING.

"Go to, let us make brick and burn them thoroughly," said the ancients in the land of Shinar, 2247 B. C. Bricks have been employed in the execution of many undertakings since the earliest times. The Tower of Babel, the walls of Babylon, the palaces of Nebuchadnezzar were built of brick. The development of the art of brick-making was for thousands of years slow and uncertain. In modern times machinery is doing much to lighten labor, but in all ages the work required to make brick has been of the hardest kind. The old manual method destroyed many a man in the prime of life. The custom, recently revived, of impressing upon brick the name of the manufacturer, has come down from the time of Nebuchadnezzar. "Knowledge of the art of brick-making probably at no time became extinct in the East, but after the fourth century, in sympathy with the decline of all other arts, and the dying Roman civilization, the knowledge of this art gradually expired, and was lost to Western Europe," says our authority. It was under Governor Van Twiller of New Amsterdam that the first brick buildings were erected in this country, and with brick brought from Holland. The Dutch succeeded well in making a strong and very durable quality of brick. Brick work became common in this country in the early part of the eighteenth century, and until the Revolution stopped foreign commerce for America, bricks were mostly imported from England and Holland. Vessels sailing with light cargoes from those countries finished out with bricks rather than with stone ballast. The brick they could sell at a moderate price, the stone they would have had to cast overboard before receiving their heavy return cargoes. Though there was little inducement to produce bricks in this country previous to the war, still bricks were manufactured in Haverstraw before that crisis arrived. The quality of the first brick produced in America compared unfavorably even with the common brick of Dutch and English manufacture, but at the present time the American made brick stands unequalled throughout the world. The inventive genius of our people, encouraged and protected by the United States patent system, has in this line as in others carried them to the front.

Deposits of brick clay extend along both sides of the river almost continuously from Haverstraw and Sing Sing to Albany. There are isolated patches farther south, but these are not of great extent. There

is no clay in the Highlands nor in the section between New Hamburg and Staatsburgh. Two kinds of clay are found along the river, the blue and the yellow; the former always underlies the other and occasionally they shade into each other or are interstratified. They are generally situated so as to afford the greatest ease and economy of working and of shipping the manufactured product. At Haverstraw the clay is obtained from the sixty-feet terrace while the one-hundred feet terrace is composed of glacial, drift and delta material. There is clay underlying the whole village, with the exception of the parts west of the small stream that runs through the center. When the demand for building bricks had increased so as to warrant their manufacture on a large scale, and when large deposits of clay were found at Haverstraw, this village naturally became a large manufacturing center, and has since continued to be the largest producer of any district supplying the New York market. The method of manufacturing has been revolutionized more than once by improvements made in Haverstraw.

The first brick manufacturer of Haverstraw was Jacob VanDyke, a Hollander, who began operations in 1771, when the then Haverstraw village was a mere cluster of houses at Kiers' dock. His brickyard was situated at Durner Point, on the DeNoyelles property, where the coffer dam now is. He made his bricks by hand, after the old Dutch method and without the aid of machinery of any kind. His clay was tempered by oxen walking through it. The Holland fashion was to make a brick that was thinner and wider than the modern American brick. We also use more sand now; then the brick was mostly all clay. Van Dyke employed but sixteen men. His bricks were shipped on sailing vessels having a capacity of five or ten thousand each. Some of the barges now employed carry a hundred thousand. The war put an end to Mr. Van Dyke's business and he and his sons enlisted in the Continental army and no further account of them can be given.

The next to make bricks in Haverstraw was James Wood, who has been termed the father of the brick industry here. Born in England, in 1773, where he became a brick-maker, he came to this village in 1815. His first yard here was on Fairmount avenue, in the hollow south of Main street. He carted his bricks in wagons to the boat. The method of manufacture was still crude when he began here, but in the course of time he introduced several important improvements. The first

was a mold having a bottom and a vent. Another was a contrivance for tempering the clay that dispensed with oxen and with spading by hand. But his most notable discovery was the efficacy of coal dust in combination with clay. He was the first to mix coal dust with clay with the result of making a far better brick than had ever been made before, and making it in one half the time previously required. This invention marked the greatest advance ever made in this industry. Since then we have had bricks of regular shape, with parallel surfaces, plane faces, sharp edges and angles and that ring when struck a sharp blow with a hammer.

From the inland situation Mr. Wood moved his business after some years to the river-front, and his was the first yard established on the beach—after Van Dyke's. It was nearly on the site of the present Denton Fowler & Son's yard. John D. Gardner was the second brick-maker on the riverside; his yard was at or near Kiers' old landing. Peter Reilly was another early starter; his yard is now known as Daniel DeNoyelles', and situated south of the village.

The first crude brick machine that was made in this country was invented in 1835 by Samuel Adams, who died at Cornwall, N. Y. The machine was simply a hand molder, but he afterwards, about 1840, invented a power machine. Mr. Adams was also the first to invent and use an iron tempering wheel. The model of his brick machine may still be seen in the U. S. Patent Office. The leading type of the machines now used at Haverstraw and vicinity is known as the Vervalen machine. Richard A. VerValen of Haverstraw, was the original inventor and builder. In the year 1853, when brick-making had attained large proportions, Mr. VerValen supplied the one thing lacking, the modern brick machine. The object of this invention was to fill the moulds more rapidly than could be done by hand, to press the material into the moulds with greater power and in a stiffer condition than could be done by hand, but not to produce a pressed brick.

The proportion of sand used varies according to the quality of the clay and the relative proportion in which the two are found in the bank. It may be taken on the average as one-third sand and two-thirds clay. The Haverstraw sand is of excellent quality, and more than the clay gives the bricks of this locality their peculiar character. When molded they are drawn out and laid on the flat, and when sufficiently dry they

are edged up, then "spatted" or tapped with a flat board, to give them a clear edge, then "hacked up." When dry enough, that is, in one or three days, according to the weather, they are built up in "arches," containing from 28,000 to 35,000 each. Five, ten or more arches are built up continuously, so as to form a solid mass, which when fully prepared for burning is called a kiln. This system of burning is pursued rather than with permanent kilns, on account of the greater number of bricks that can be burned in a given space. A Haverstraw yard containing only two hundred feet frontage can thus make from five to six million bricks in a season of one hundred and fifty working days. About half the kilns in Haverstraw are burnt with wood, one with oil, the rest with coal.

Moulding is carried on in the early hours of the day, the rest of the time being spent in "hacking up," etc. The machines turn out in ordinary working ten moulds or sixty bricks per minute, or eighteen to twenty thousand per forenoon. They require the following plant and help per machine: twenty-five moulds, for trucks and eight men. A machine turning eighteen thousand a day requires eight horse-power high pressure. The standard of full work is to turn out one thousand brick per day for every soul employed, from the time the clay is dug till the bricks are on the vessel. Thus, an establishment employing forty hands should turn out forty thousand a day. The total number of men employed in a yard is reckoned at fifteen for every machine. A two-machine yard requires a strip of land 180 feet wide by 475 feet long. Clay lands on the river front are worth at least \$10,000 an acre without any improvements. The Excelsior Brick Company paid \$75,000 for six acres. To put a two-machine yard in condition for renting costs \$10,000. What the tenant must put on it is worth \$4,000 per machine. The running capital required is not less than \$4,000.

The most noteworthy recent departure from long established procedure consists in obtaining clay from the river by dredging. Four yards now get their clay from dredging companies, paying eight cents a cubic yard. The dredge scoops the clay up from the bottom of the river and dumps it into cars that are carried on floats. When the cars are all filled the floats are towed to the wharf, and then the cars are run from the floats to a trestle in the brickyard, where the clay is discharged. One large dredge is able to get out sufficient clay for twenty yards. The

clay in the river-bed is two hundred feet deep, and is of good quality, better than up-land clay. T. G. & G. H. Peck have dispensed with horses for taking clay out of the bank and use a tramway instead. Rowan & Scott use oil instead of coal or wood for burning their kiln. The product of the Haverstraw yards is nearly all shipped by river, the remainder by rail. The river transportation is mostly with barges. The following is a list of the brick-makers in the Haverstraw district, together with the number of machines, number of bricks made in a season, and giving the name of the owner of the real estate. Beginning at the south:

Brickmakers. Owners of Real Estate.	No. of Machines.	Product in Millions.	No. of Barges.
Thomas Malley, D. DeNoyelles & Co.....	7	12	1
M. Bennett & Son, D. DeNoyelles & Co.....	5	10	2
D. Noyelles & Co., D. Noyelles & Co.....	3	6	1
John & Thos. Lynch, D. Noyelles & Co.....	5	10	2
D. Fowler & Son, D. Fowler & Son.....	5	12	2
Excelsior Brick Company, Excelsior Brick Co....	6	13	3
O'Brien & Nicholson, J. Esler Eckerson.....	2	4	1
Andrew Donnelly, J. W. Gillies & Co.....	3	6	1
Gornley & Co., J. Esler Eckerson.....	2	4	1
Nicholson & O'Brien, J. Esler Eckerson.....	2	4	1
P. Goldrick, J. E. Eckerson and Est. A. M. Archer	4	8	2
M. Waldron & Co., J. Esler Eckerson.....	2	4	1
Snedeker Bros., Snedeker Bros.....	2	4	1
T. G. & G. H. Peck, T. G. & G. H. Peck.....	6	10	2
T. G. & G. H. Peck & Co., T. G. & G. H. Peck.....	6	10	1
Edward Renn, Estate of A. M. Archer.....	4	8	1
B. J. Allison & Co., B. J. Allison.....	6	12	1
Rowan & Scott, Catherine Scott.....	8	12	2
Allison & Wood, B. J. Allison.....	3	6	3
Wood & Allison, B. J. Allison.....	3	6	3
Frank Grimes, Haverstraw Clay & Brick Co.....	4	9	1
Heitlinger & Co., Haverstraw Clay & Brick Co...	4	9	1
D. Fowler, Jr., & Co., Havers'w Clay & Brick Co.	5	10	2
McGuire & Lynch, Havers'w Clay & Brick Co.....	4	8	2
Terrence McGuire, Haverstraw Clay & Brick Co..	4	8	1
Warrell & Byrnes, Washburn, Fowler & Co.....	3	6	1
Washburn Bros., Washburn, Fowler & Co.....	3	6	1
Washburn, Fowler & Co., Washburn, Fowler & Co.	12	25	4
Patrick Brophy, F. P. & G. C. Felter.....	3	6	1
Morrissey & Co., Heirs of Adam Lilburn.....	3	6	1
Morrissey Bros, Heirs of Adam Lilburn.....	3	6	1
Riley & Rose, Watson Tomkins.....	4	10	1
Riley & Clark, Watson Tomkins.....	5	10	1
Cahil, Carroll & Co., Heirs of A. Lilburn.....	4	10	1
Frank L. Dunigan, Heirs of A. Lilburn.....	5	12	1
Fowler & Washburn, Fowler & Washburn.....	5	12	2
Thos. Shankey & Son, Mrs. A. B. Reid.....	4	8	1
J. W. Felter (at Theills), Heirs of E. W. Christie	2	4	

HAVERSTRAW PUBLIC SCHOOL.

District Number One.

The first public school building in this district of which we have any information, was built in 1810 on the lot on Fourth street, opposite the Methodist Episcopal church. It was a red frame building of two stories and nearly as large as the brick building now on that lot. It was the custom in this state at that time and for years afterwards to call a two story school house an academy, and this building and also its brick successor were dignified by the name of "The Academy." The second story only was at first used for school purposes, the first story being occupied by the teacher as a residence, or sometimes rented. The first teacher in this building was an Irishman named Quinn, who remained several years and married one of his pupils, a Miss Wandell, daughter of Daniel Wandell, the last survivor of the witnesses of the execution of Major Andre. The names of Mr. Quinn's immediate successors have not been ascertained. Some years later the school was taught by a Mr. Felch, the father of a well known Methodist Episcopal preacher named Isaac N. Felch, who was pastor of the Haverstraw church in 1835 and 1836.

About 1828 the school was taught by another Irishman named Doyle, who was fond of his cups and also a great disciplinarian, if flogging can be called discipline. At the close of his term he had a "settlement" with his boys, by flogging them all around. Mr. H. B. McKenzie, then a pupil in his seventh year, was thrown over the stairs by an older boy to escape punishment, and giving notice of what the teacher was doing, some of the citizens interfered and put a stop to Mr. Doyle's "settlement."

Zetus Searles was successor of Doyle. He was a local preacher from Paterson, a kind man and a good teacher. Luther D. Abbott followed him, who was also a good teacher. He married Miss Maria Cosgrove, daughter of Christopher Cosgrove, about 1830, and resided in this village five years, but was not teaching all that time. His wife was an elder sister of Mrs. Henrietta Holmes, who is still (1902) living in Haverstraw, at an advanced age. In 1831 Mr. Laban and his son Jacob managed the school. The day on which school opened Mr. Laban was very pleasant and polite to his new pupils and simply took their names and dismissed them, but the next day he wore a sterner aspect, and pointed to a cat-o'-nine-tails hanging over the door. Mr. L. was, however, a good

teacher and not unnecessarily severe. He was succeeded by Mr. Cranmer, who was a superior mathematician and published an almanac of his own calculation. Samuel Hay then taught the school for a short time. He was not related to the Hay family of Revolutionary fame. He was followed by Charles Smith, a bachelor and brother of Wm. Eugene Smith, who kept the Union Hotel on Main street, now a part of Mr. L. D. West's saloon, and was related to the Smith family, whose history is connected with Haverstraw's earlier days. In 1835, Mr. Ebenezer McKenzie, father of Mr. H. B. McKenzie, resided in the first story of the Academy and used one corner as a shoemaker shop. In this year Mr. David B. Loomis took charge of the school. He was a scholar and a superior teacher, and is well spoken of by the older citizens of Haverstraw, who were his pupils. He was a strict disciplinarian and had a knack of throwing a ruler past the head of a disorderly pupil without hitting him.

The wooden Academy built in 1810, which had served its purpose well and was likely to last many more years, was burned in 1846. In the cold weather of January 21st, the box stove was crammed with wood to keep fire over night, which probably was the cause of the firing of the school house; a deep snow on the ground and the lack of fire apparatus rendered its destruction complete. At this time the school used the first and second floors; above these was a commodious attic which was used as a lodge room by the Odd Fellows. Some of the school boys, who had heard wonderful accounts of the performances of the Odd Fellows' goat, gathered in front of the church to get a sight of the animal when driven out by the flames, but, much to their disappointment, the goat did not appear and probably perished in the conflagration with the other paraphernalia of the secret society. What is now the middle part of the Oldfield dwelling, south of the school, was a red building, and was saved from the flames by hanging wet carpets against it and by a constant fire of snowballs sent by the crowd of men and boys.

On February 2nd following, a District School meeting voted to raise \$1300 for a new Academy. To many this sum seemed extravagant and a meeting was called in March with a view of annulling this vote, but was unsuccessful, and the substantial brick Academy (now used as Town and Village Hall) was erected on the same lot and at the time of its erection was sufficiently commodious and well adapted for its purpose. While

this was building, the school was held in a wooden building on Front street, which now forms a part of the elegant residence of the late Gen. I. M. Hedges.

Mr. David B. Loomis continued to teach in the new Academy till 1848, when he resigned and carried on a private school in the village for several years. He then removed to Sullivan county and later to Richmond, Indiana, where, after losing all his family, he died at an advanced age.

Mr. Abram DeBaun, a graduate of the State Normal School, succeeded Mr. Loomis and taught nearly four years. He was a member of an old Rockland county family and married Miss Jane Fowler. His daughters, Mrs. Ruth Milburn and Mrs. Anna Foss, still reside in the village. As a teacher he was very successful. On leaving the school he engaged in the coal and lumber business. He had a very fine voice and musical talent and took an active part as a singer in the Fremont campaign in 1856. He died while on a visit to Kansas in 1858, at an early age, universally esteemed and lamented.

In 1852 the school was placed under the charge of Mr. Jirah I. Foote, who was also a graduate of the State Normal School. He had taught previously at the "Street" school near New City and at Tomkins Cove. Mr. Foote's rule lasted two and a half years; he was a thorough teacher and a quiet and successful disciplinarian. While teaching in Middletown, Orange county, in 1858, he was solicited to return to Haverstraw, but the Middletown trustees raised his salary and refused to release him. His principal assistant in the academy was Miss Sarah Perdue, daughter of Dr. Perdue and later the wife of Rev. R. B. Yard.

During the four years between 1854 and 1858 the school was taught first by Mr. Sheldon and then by Rev. Mr. St. John, who had been the last pastor of the Methodist Protestant church.

On April 19, 1858, Mr. L. Wilson became principal of the school. When Mr. Foote, as has been said above, declined the position, he sent Mr. Wilson to fill the place. Under Mr. Wilson the school increased in numbers till all the rooms of the Academy were filled and four assistants became necessary. Mr. Wilson, in July, 1860, married one of his assistants, Miss Sarah E. DeRonde, and, on October 15th of that year, resigned his position.



LUTHER O. MARKHAM.

Rev. Richard S. Ammerman, a Methodist preacher, had charge of the school from October 17, 1860, till March 14, 1862. He was succeeded by Mr. George Secor, who remained till 1863, except a brief period when he left the school in charge of Mr. Richard L. Gurnee. Mr. Secor was a firm disciplinarian, but was well liked by his pupils.

Mr. J. O. Austin followed and remained till the latter part of 1871. He was as successful as circumstances permitted. The crowded condition of the school was not favorable to good discipline or good instruction. His principal assistant was Miss Lydia Hanson, from Maine, who, much to the regret of her attached pupils, resigned in 1868 to become the helpmeet of Mr. Silas G. Mackey.

During Mr. Austin's regime the school overflowed and rooms were hired in the Gordon house and other private dwellings, and assistant teachers hastily engaged. For many years the Catholics had carried on a parochial school, first in a school building erected for the purpose, on Ridge street, and later on in their old and disused church building. This school the Catholics abandoned in 1871 and its pupils overwhelmed the public school. To remedy this, the trustees hired the old Catholic church for a public school and placed Mr. Patrick Reilly in charge, and it passed by the name of the "Upper school."

At the beginning of the year 1872 two gentlemen teachers were engaged, Mr. N. P. Fisher and Mr. Luther O. Markham, graduates of the Albany Normal School. Mr. Fisher was installed in the Academy and Mr. Markham in the "Upper school."

With well qualified teachers and enlarged accommodations, a marked improvement followed, but it was at once evident that the above expedients could be but temporary and that permanent and improved school buildings were necessary, and after several years agitation and several preliminary meetings a school meeting was held March 9, 1883, when it was voted to build a new school house, and the site on the corner of Hudson and Fairmount avenues was selected and \$20,000 voted, of which \$3,000 was to be raised immediately and the remainder on bonds. The trustees, Messrs. H. W. Babcock, Leonard Cooper and Terrence Maguire, with Messrs. H. N. Wood, G. J. Allison, Harmon Felter, S. G. Mackey and John Cleary were appointed a building committee and work immediately commenced.

The south part of the present building was ready for occupancy in 1884, and school was opened in September of that year, Mr. L. O. Markham being appointed principal, Mr. Fisher retiring. Mr. Fisher, after teaching acceptably in other schools in the county, obtained a permanent position in the New York Custom House. He resides in Nyack, N. Y.

In the year 1859, while Mr. Wilson was in charge, the need of instruction for colored children, who were growing up in ignorance, was manifest. Occasionally one tried to get into the public school, but was unwelcome, the inflamed condition of public sentiment, before the Civil war, in regard to slavery and the race question, prevented peaceful comingling. A separate school for colored children was therefore opened in the Zion church on Clinton street, under the charge of a colored lady, and this arrangement continued with slight interruptions until the new school was opened, when the colored school was transferred to the old Academy and a white lady placed in charge.

The improved condition of the new public school on Hudson avenue drew pupils away from the private schools, of which there had been a number in the village. These pupils and those added by the rapid growth of the population, soon showed that even in its new quarters the school was becoming crowded, and August 15, 1894, it was voted to build an addition on the north end. The sum of \$12,500 was voted and the new building was ready for use in September, 1895. A large assembly room occupied the top floor of this addition. The middle floor contained five class rooms and the principal's room, and the ground floor the furnace room and commodious quarters for the colored school.

Most of the assistant teachers were Normal graduates, and the school continued to grow and flourish. The school had been hitherto carried on under the general common school system, but by a vote of the district in February, 1897, its government was changed into that of the Union Free School system under a Board of Education of nine trustees. Hon. Alonzo Wheeler was chosen President of this Board and still (in 1902) continues in this position. Mr. Markham was elected Superintendent and the High School department added under the Board of Regents of the University, by which the school became entitled to additional public moneys from the State and enlargement of its library and apparatus.

The compulsory attendance law, popularly called the Truant law, though enacted some years previously, had not been thoroughly enforced,

owing to lack of school accommodations, but the new Board gave the matter attention, and in June, 1897, its committee reported that the law was effective, that the children subject to its provisions were attending school with a fair degree of regularity. The effect of this excellent law was to increase largely the school attendance, and to crowd the rooms of the new building. It was found that the children of the colored school, conducted as it was by only one teacher, were not given the advantages to which they were entitled, and also that the rooms they occupied with their small numbers, rendered their instruction unnecessarily expensive. Thereupon, on September 9th, 1897, the Superintendent was authorized to distribute the colored children through the school according to their respective attainments; this was done by Mr. Markham with so much tact that no friction or dissatisfaction arose. The colored children were kindly received by their white associates and their successes in the public exercises were warmly applauded. The color line was abolished, showing that "The world moves."

The commodious rooms which the colored school had used were at once occupied by the Kindergarten, for which they were exactly suited. This interesting branch of the school had been for many years conducted successfully by Miss Mary Ann Redmond and is still under her charge.

Mr. Markham, the principal and Superintendent, is in 1902 teaching his thirty-first successive year in this school, a length of service which has had few, if any, parallels. He has always been popular with his associate teachers and his pupils, is remarkably tactful and successful as an organizer and as a quiet disciplinarian, and the whole of his administration has been free from any turmoil or disturbance. The Regents' examinations show that the scholarship is well sustained. The ground floor of the entire building, except the furnace room, is used by the Primary department. It has an assembly room, used for general exercises, for teaching music and as a play room, and four other rooms, including the Kindergarten, used for teaching number work, writing and reading. About 250 children are generally found on this floor, where they remain about a year and a half. They are divided into four classes, each taking its turn every half day in the Kindergarten and other rooms. Reading is taught by the Pollard synthetic system. This system, using diacritical marks from the very beginning, is found, in comparison with other systems tried, to save to each child from one to two years in learning to read.

Miss Lizzie Gormley, who has had charge of the Primary reading department for twenty-five years, has been remarkably successful in the application of this system.

Judged by the official standards the school as a whole ranks very high. The High School claims the ability to prepare pupils for admission to college and from it students have gone to Cornell, New York University, Columbia, Syracuse University, Elmira Female College, Vassar College and to the State Normal schools. The school has twenty-one teachers, all ladies except the Principal. At the opening of the school year in the fall of 1902, an additional gentleman teacher is to be engaged and an entire business course is to be introduced, which will cover four years. It will include Advanced Bookkeeping, Business Methods, Stenography and Typewriting. The successful completion of this course will entitle the student to a State business or stenographic diploma.

PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Since 1896 the King's Daughters Society of Haverstraw has maintained a circulating library that has become one of the most prized institutions of the village. The society itself was organized in 1891, and was first known as "The Haverstraw Ladies' Home Mission Circle." The foundation was laid by Miss Sarah Conger Robinson, who was chosen for the first president. In 1894 the society, upon the suggestion of Mrs. W. A. Speck, was expanded into a large charitable organization, and Mrs. Speck was elected President. At a special meeting of the Executive Board on July 8, 1895, the president, Mrs. Everett Fowler, presented a plan for founding a public library as a department of the society's work that was carried into effect. A fair was held in the fall in aid of the new institution. The first board of library trustees, elected in October, was composed of Mrs. Everett Fowler, Mrs. Ira M. Hedges, Mrs. Irving Brown, Mrs. W. A. Masker, Mrs. Charles Zundel. The library was then incorporated and admitted by the Regents to the University of the State of New York. First located in Jenkin's Hall, it was opened to the public February 14, 1896, with 100 books on the shelves. Miss Mary Van Orden was the first librarian.

In May, 1896, at the regular annual meeting of the society, the constitution was so amended as to include the library. It was also provided in a separate paragraph that there should always be at least two male

members on the board and that these should be chosen from the list of auxiliary members. In order to conform to the requirements of the constitution, the board of trustees then resigned and the following new board was elected: Mrs. Everett Fowler, Mrs. Ira M. Hedges, Mrs. W. A. Masker, Mrs. William H. Carr and Mr. W. A. Speck, the latter two being respectively treasurer and chairman, while Mrs. Hedges was secretary.

In November, 1898, the library was moved to the old National Bank building. In July, 1899, Mrs. Denton Fowler made a written proposition to pay into the hands of the trustees the sum of ten thousand dollars for the purpose of buying land as a site, and erecting a building for the Kings' Daughters' Public Library, providing that the building be named the "Fowler Library Building," and that the society supply an equal sum. The offer was accepted and a building site at the foot of Main street has been secured. Much of the actual work connected with establishing the library has been the contribution of Mr. W. A. Speck.

CHURCHES.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

This was the first church society organized within the present bounds of the Town of Haverstraw and had its inception in the year 1781. It was an offspring of the old English Presbyterian Church at Kakiat, whither the English speaking people of this vicinity had been accustomed to repair for public worship. A subscription paper pledging support for the preaching of the Gospel here was signed by the following named: Peter Parker, Ebenezer Bishop, William Allison, Phebe Osborn, Hannah Conkling, Richard Decklins, Lebbeua Knapp, Jacob Parker, Jacob Theill, Matthew Allison, Benjamin Furman, Joseph Allison, Isaac Furman, Richard Crum, George Marks, Daniel Wheeler, John Johnson, Thomas Ellison, John Johnston, Jr., Abraham Cooper, Benjamin Coe, Jacob Waldron, William Colley, Tobias Derunder, Joseph Coley, William Derunder, James Garner, Cornelius Cooper, William Wiggins, Abraham Storms, Cornelius Bulson, Isaac Youmans, Gilbert Hunt, Nathaniel Brooks, Thomas Titt, David Springsted, Samuel Allison, Resolvert Springsted, John Phillips, David Springsted (2d), Derriek Acker, Edward Waldron, Henry Ten Eyck, Florus Cronn, Jonas Knapp, Alexander Bulson, Henry Halsted, John Ten Eyck, Daniel

Phillips, Anthony Bulson, Eli Phillips, John Waldron, Gilbert Phillips, Job Babeock, Conrate Ryder, Thomas Dykins, Amos Hutchins, Barent Van de Voort, Isaac Parker, Charles Mott, Jared Knapp, Gilbert Williams, Jacob Kniffen, Benjamin Allison, Aaron Brower, Peter Allison, John Briggs, Matthew Benson, John Roberts, Noah Moot, John Conkling. This congregation heard the Word of God preached every third or fourth Sabbath by the Rev. Robert Burns, who was also the minister of the English Church at Kakiate, and it was designated simply as the "English Protestant Society of Haverstraw." The first trustees named on the records are Jacob Waldron, Amos Hutchins and Peter Allison. Trustee Hutchins had commanded a company in the New York line of the Continental army in the War for Independence.

On the 17th of August, 1789, the congregation accepted from Thomas Smith (a brother of Joshua Hett Smith) the gift of a parcel of land "for the purpose of erecting a church or meeting house, and for a school house and burying-ground," on condition that a pew in the church and a plot sixteen feet square in the grave-yard be reserved for Mr. Smith and his family. Jacob Waldron, Peter Allison and Ebenezer Bishop were the trustees at that time, and they received the deed in behalf of the congregation. The meeting house was completed and dedicated in 1790. It was such an edifice as conformed to the architectural standards of the period, and as the needs of the congregation required and their circumstances permitted, a plain but substantial structure about forty feet square. It stood on the crown of Calico Hill, by the side of the now long neglected burying-ground.

For some years previous to the building of the church the Rev. Robert Burns had confined his ministerial labors to this congregation exclusively, as he was now well stricken in years. Since 1775, the first year of the Revolution, he had resided near Mead's Corners on a farm of 100 acres that he had purchased from Thomas Smith, and it was doubtless his presence as a permanent resident in the neighborhood that had been referred to as "a gracious interposition of divine providence," in presenting "an opportunity" for "planting the preached Gospel among us." The Revolution had been a trying time for churches, and ministers who then had farms to retire to and depend on for support were fortunate. Mr. Burns had a son, David, who was prominent in the public affairs of the town. When the church was dedicated the pastor was 84 years

old; his very presence in the pulpit was at once a benediction and an inspiration to holy living. The congregation grew under his ministry and the members were bound to him with cords of love and appreciation. Born in Scotland in 1706, the first fifty-four years of his life were spent in his native land, and though but fifteen years in America when the war began, he at once championed the cause of civil and religious liberty, and through all the years of the conflict, when many around him faltered, he was a tower of strength to the patriots. He was a grand patriarchal figure in the pulpit, but was spared for only a year to preach in the new church. He died November 22, 1791, and was buried in the family plot near his dwelling.

The death of the Rev. Robert Burns was a severe blow to the congregation, as many years passed ere the pulpit was again filled as he had filled it. With the exception of one year, 1797-8, when the Rev. Allen Blair was the settled minister for the Presbyterian churches at Kakiate and Haverstraw, these two churches were dependent on traveling ministers until the Rev. Samuel Pelton came in 1817, to take charge of both. He was installed on the 20th of February, at the age of 40, and took up his residence in the parsonage at Kakiate. He gave half his time to each church. From the Kakiate church he received an annual salary of \$250 and forty cords of wood, besides the use of the parsonage. From the Haverstraw church he probably received the equivalent. He was a man of force and exceptional abilities. Born at Montgomery, Orange county, he early united with the Goodwill Church and was urged by his pastor to prepare for the ministry. He chose rather to take up the business of a farmer, and, marrying, he took up land near Monticello in 1802 and settled there. Having an inclination toward religious work, he was largely instrumental in planting and building up Presbyterianism in that county. Four churches sprang up from his labors and his name has been handed down as that of the "father of Presbyterianism in Sullivan county." At last, in 1814, he was persuaded by his old pastor and others to take up theological studies and qualify himself for the ministry. The way being opened before him, he was able with great zeal and a mature mind to quickly master the essentials he lacked, and in the fall of 1815 he was licensed to preach.

Mr. Pelton was an interesting and effective preacher, a devoted minister to the families in his charge. He greatly revived the congrega-

tions, and at one communion season, in the year 1821, 110 persons united with the church. The great debate in which he took part with a Methodist minister on a platform erected in front of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Haverstraw is well known history. Doctrinal distinctions were more emphasized in those days than now. The work that Mr. Pelton did in this community in the course of a ministry extending over twenty-three years cannot be adequately estimated in a few lines. His pastorate was a distinct era in the religious history of the town; his memory is still fragrant; the vines that he planted are still bearing fruit. A stroke of paralysis brought his ministry here to a close in the winter of 1839-'40. With sadness people and pastor parted, and he retired to his farm near Monticello—but not to die. The hand of affliction was gradually lifted from him; the providential leadings were plain in his life. Many years, happy and useful, opened before him in the old home; he never became a pastor again, but did a large amount of Christian work and at times filled vacant pulpits. Mr. Pelton had the companionship of his wife until 1861, he followed her to the Monticello graveyard in 1864, aged 87.

By this time the congregation had outgrown the old meeting-house, and the members residing in the village wished to have a place of worship nearer their homes. It was therefore resolved, in 1839, as a temporary expedient to have one service in the morning, at the old church, and another in the afternoon, at the village. When the Rev. James Hildreth began his ministry here, April 2, 1840, this was the plan followed. The village service was held in the church formerly used by the Methodist Protestants. Services in the old church on the hill were discontinued in 1847, the last on November 21st. Mr. Hildreth departed in 1848, while the present church edifice was in process of erection. The building site was the gift of Elisha Peek. Midway between the spreading villages of Samsondale and Haverstraw, and supposedly on the line of progress, the location was at that time considered advantageous. The first pastor in the new church was the Rev. Livingston Willard, who remained but one year. Rev. James H. Trowbridge was ordained and installed November 27, 1850; resigned 1853. Rev. P. J. H. Myers, installed September 7, 1854; resigned December 30, 1859. Rev. Spencer Marsh, installed November 26, 1861; resigned 1868. The minister that has been longest and best identified with the brick church is the



HENRY HAHN.

Rev. James J. McMahon. In 1868, when Mr. McMahon was pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Stony Point, an arrangement was made by which the Haverstraw church should receive part of his attention. He preached his first sermon in the brick church on the first Sabbath of September, and for thirty years continued to be the devoted pastor. In 1875 he relinquished the charge of the Stony Point congregation. Ill health compelled Mr. McMahon to give up his ministerial labors in 1898, when the Rev. B. F. Parliaman succeeded him. Mr. McMahon continued to reside on Prospect Hill. A few years of rest so restored his health that after the departure of Mr. Parliaman he agreed to a request that he should supply the pulpit, and is continuing in that relation.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

From the earliest times this church has filled a prominent place in the community. It is not known at what date the vine was first planted, but at the dawn of the last century a society had been worshipping here for a number of years. When the dwellings in the village could yet be numbered on the fingers of one hand, John B. Matthias formed a class of nine persons and preached unto them the Word of God. Mr. Matthias was a class leader from Tarrytown, and by vocation a ship-builder. He was a man of intellectual power, as well as deep conviction. As opportunity offered he formed classes in other places also, and united all into a circuit—the "Bergen circuit," he called it. Numbers were added to the sweet communion here under his ministration. Although he had now arrived at middle age, this good man was destined for a long career in the ministry. In 1811 he was received into the traveling connection, and his work was not finished until May 27, 1848, when he departed this life, at Hempstead, L. I., in the eighty-second year of his age.

In 1800 the Methodist meetings were being held at the residence of Peter DeNoyelles, who was a class leader. The time came when provision should be made for a church edifice, and on the first of October, 1806, the society accepted from William Smith, son of Thomas Smith, who was the brother of Joshua H. Smith, the tender of a site with the conditions that he attached. The situation was choice, though land values were then not high. The trustees who received the deed were Peter DeNoyelles, Peter Allison and Benjamin Sherwood. In this doc-

ument the party of the first part described himself as "William Smith, of the town of Savannah, in the State of Georgia, Esq.," and stipulated that the church should be erected within five years from date, and that a pew should ever be reserved for him, his heirs or assigns. Thus did this worthy gentleman perpetuate his memory. In 1807 the society was incorporated under the laws of the State, with five trustees, to whom the deed was transferred. The five were George Weiant, Peter Corkedale and the three heretofore named.

The edifice was erected in 1810, a schoolhouse across the way at the same time; and the village grew up around them. The church, suiting the needs and circumstances of its era, was small and inexpensive; benches served for pews, and carpets were unnecessary; the front was painted white, the back and sides red. In form it was square and its measure was thirty-six feet.

The devoted ministers who rode the Newburgh circuit, to which Haverstraw belonged in 1810, were Robert Dillon and James Sherwood. Henry Stead was the Presiding Elder of the district, which was the Albany District. Presumably they were the first who ministered in the new house of prayer. The following year Haverstraw was joined to the Philadelphia Conference, in the Bergen circuit of the East Jersey District, and had John Robertson and John Finley for alternating preachers. The labors of these two tireless evangelists were divided among twenty-two places, and once every four weeks each covered the circuit. Religion filled a large part of the simple lives of the people; the privilege of meeting together in His name was cherished all the more because of the sacrifices which it ensured. Manifestations of deep spiritual emotions often characterized the services. An unseen power took hold of men. On one occasion the recently bereaved widow of a Revolutionary soldier, after a fervent supplication "that she might be with him soon in the Paradise of God," fell prostrate from her knees and expired, thus receiving an immediate answer to her petition. Doctrinal controversy, both public and private, was one of the exercises which fanned the fires of God's truth in the soul. It was a rare sermon that was not in part designed to refute the claims of rival sects. A debate that occurred at this church May 2, 1821, will ever be prominent in the annals of the county. The Rev. Samuel Pelton, the Presbyterian pastor at Denson's Corners, and the Rev. Lawrence Keen, who was a Methodist local

preacher from New York, met on a platform especially erected in front of the church, and contended each for the faith that was in him. Both were men of scholarship and intellectual power, and for three hours and a half a great audience listened attentively.

Among the revered men who, ministering to this flock, left an abiding impression, was the Rev. George Banghart, who sang his way into the hearts of his hearers. The power of song was appreciated by the early Methodists and its exercise encouraged. The congregational singing was thrilling and uplifting. Mr. Banghart frequently ornamented his discourses with sacred melody. One of the first precentors of whom there is record was Ebenezer McKenzie, a man whose influence and service in more ways than one greatly strengthened the Haverstraw church. The same may be said of Mr. Heman B. McKenzie, whose voice for forty years in succeeding generations led the congregation and Sabbath school in music, and inspired the Rev. J. T. Crane to say in an article published in 1861 concerning the singing in this church, "His praise is delightful."

Beginning in 1820, and continuing to 1821, camp meetings were held nearly every year in a pleasant grove northwest of the village, on lands subsequently occupied by the iron works of Peck & Phelps. People from all the lower river counties, especially from New York, came to this temple of Nature to enjoy Christian fellowship and the outpouring of the spirit. They came in sloops, on horseback and in wagons.

The Sabbath school had its inception in a class for children, taught by Miss Harriet Wood, daughter of James Wood, notable for his improvements in brick-making. Miss Wood gathered the little ones together first in 1825, but the school was not officially organized until 1833, and then with David M. Vanderpool as superintendent. Mr. Vanderpool's successor was David B. Loomis, who was also the principal of the public school. After him came David Cosgrove, James Rutherford (1843), John A. Cosgrove (1848), Samuel Cosgrove (1851), John A. Cosgrove (1853 to 1872), Heman B. McKenzie, Job Holt, Heman B. McKenzie (1876 to 1886). Pastors of the church then successively discharged the duties of superintendent. In a historical sketch of the school, written by Mr. McKenzie in 1884, it is said that "during all these years good and faithful men have filled the positions of secretary and librarian, among whom are Mr. I. Wallace Marks, Messrs. George and

William Sherwood, Mr. John M. Gardner, Mr. Edward Peck and Mr. William T. Purdy as secretaries, and Mr. Edwin Brockway, Albert Carson, Aaron Snedeker, Samuel Snedeker, Charles Lane and Theodore Fredericks as librarians. The infant class teachers have been Mrs. John S. Gurnee, Mrs. Ahnira R. Blanch, Mrs. William R. Lane, Mrs. Edwin Brockway and Mrs. Sophia J. Peck, assisted by Mrs. Garret G. Allison. The female superintendents have been Mrs. James Ayres, Mrs. R. S. Arndt, Mrs. C. Gardner, Mrs. H. B. McKenzie, Mrs. Samuel Snedeker and Mrs. Silas G. Mackey. Many other persons whose names are not mentioned here have been connected with this school and have done good service for the Master."

Among the circuit preachers who came to Haverstraw were a number famous in the annals of Methodism. The colleague of George Banghart, in 1820, and of John Potts, in 1819, was the celebrated orator, Charles Pitman. Other circuit preachers were Stephen Martindale, Phineas Rice, Manning Force, James Atkins, who died at the early age of 27 at the home of John Theill, in this town; Bartholomew Weed, Anthony Atwood, Isaac N. Felch and Mulford Day, all previous to 1840. In the congregation the leading men about the years 1827-'30 were Peter DeNoyelles, George Weiant, Nicholas Williamson, James Wood, Leonard Gurnee, William Osborn, George Smith, Michael Snedeker, William Palmer, Daniel Philips, James Drumond, Abram Allison, Ezra Mead, Matthias Whriterour, Walter Smith.

In 1831, during the ministration of James H. Dandy, a subdivision of the congregation on matters of doctrine resulted in the organization of "the Methodist Protestant" society. Among those who seceded were James Wood, George Weiant, George Smith, Michael Snedeker and Walter Smith. The church at the corner of Middle and Third streets was erected by this society. In November, 1867, the congregation having fallen away, the building was sold to the German Lutherans.

In the year 1840, during the pastorate of the Rev. Mulford Day, a growing sentiment in favor of a new house of worship for the Methodist Episcopal society culminated in decisive action. At a meeting in the preacher's house on June 1st, the following were appointed a building committee: John S. Gurnee, Abram Allison, Lawrence DeNoyelles, Lewis R. Mackey, Leonard Gurnee. Plans were prepared by John R. McKenzie, and Abram Cosgrove was the builder. The site was on the

lot beside the old church. Though yet incomplete, the new sanctuary was dedicated and for the first time occupied December 17, 1840. The dedicatory sermon was preached by the Rev. Charles Pitman, from Rom. 8:3-4. The old building was sold and moved away, to be used as a barn. Convenient, neat and even beautiful, the new house of God was the pride of the village. In the shapely tower a sweet toned bell called to prayer or solemnly rang the knell for a departed soul. A new voice in Israel, it was an inspiration as well as a joy, for many hearing it came to the altar as converts. The revival which began that first Sabbath and continued for many days was the most powerful that had ever been known in the country. One hundred and twenty persons publicly made new resolves. The memory of the pastor under whose guidance these great works were performed is still "as ointment poured out."

The choir was organized in 1843, with Heman B. McKenzie as leader. The same year, the Methodists in the sections having become sufficiently numerous, Haverstraw, Stony Point and Theills were constituted as one ministerial charge, with George S. Brown as the first pastor. In 1846, while Michael E. Ellison was pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church, the Rev. Amassa S. Freeman began his long ministry over the newly organized Central Presbyterian congregation. An acceleration of manufacturing made this period one of great prosperity for the village, in which all the churches participated. The system of renting pews, succeeding free-will contributions, was adopted by this church in 1850. The congregation then had 170 full members. The parsonage was erected in 1851, and the Rev. James H. McFarland was the first to occupy it. The year 1855 is memorable for a great revival and the purchase of a new bell, the pastor being the Rev. Joseph B. Dobbins. In 1858 the church edifice was enlarged, fifteen or twenty feet being added to the length. Haverstraw was honored in 1859 by the presence of the Newark Annual Conference, Bishop Simpson presiding. It was an exceptionally interesting week for Haverstraw. Bishop Janes preached the Conference sermon. In a resolution the body tendered "special thanks to the choir of the church for their very delightful music; such music as we have been able to understand and enjoy."

At the outbreak of the Civil War the Rev. Jonathan T. Crane was the pastor. He was the man for the crisis. A fearless, unswerving patriot, a scholarly, effective preacher, he was singularly well fitted to

be a leader in this community at such a time. During his ministry the house of worship was enlarged again being re-opened for divine service on the first Sabbath of May, 1861. The morning sermon was by Bishop James; in the evening the Rev. L. R. Dunn preached. As it then stood the church was cruciform in shape, the length being one hundred and the extreme breadth fifty-four feet. The main floor contained 125 pews, besides space for the choir. With the end gallery, which could seat about one hundred, there were seats for seven hundred people. In emergencies seats could be provided for a thousand.

The planting of the Centenary Chapel was a fruit of the ministry of the Rev. Ralph S. Arndt, who came here in 1864, and was the first pastor to stay three years. A number of young people living between Haverstraw and New City had been converted during a revival. Desiring to confirm them in the faith, Mr. Arndt occasionally preached in their neighborhood. This was the beginning of a society, the first trustees of which were John I. Cole, William Felter, W. W. Hyer, Garret A. Tremper and H. J. Cornett. Harmon Felter, James E. Tremper and Garret G. Allison, of the parent church, gave personal aid and encouragement to the work. Land for a building was presented by W. H. and J. P. Tremper, and a fund of \$2,500 for a building was raised for the most part by members of the Haverstraw Church. The corner stone was laid in the spring of 1867, Mr. Arndt presiding at the ceremony; the dedication occurred in October.

A similar enterprise carried on by brethren of the old church resulted in the building (1872-3) of a new church at Garnerville; Eleazer and Joshua Penney and the Felter brothers were interested in this work. The cost of the edifice was \$6,500.

A debt of \$7,000 was cleared away during the pastorate of the Rev. William Tunison, 1867-9, and the congregation began the next decade with a membership of 346, besides 30 probationers. The organ was enlarged and improved at a cost of \$500 in 1880. Two years later extensive improvements of a decorative character were made to the interior of the edifice. The organ was at this time moved from the rear to the front of the auditorium. The year 1883 was marked by the appearance of Francis Murphy, the apostle of temperance, who conducted a series of meetings. The congregation during the last half century has given many evidences of liberality and pecuniary ability.

In 1885 \$1,000 was raised to cancel debts and meet expenses; the next year steam heat was introduced at a cost of \$2,000; in 1890 improvements costing \$3,000 were made to the interior, including new pews.

It will be observed that this church has had an exceptionally useful and prosperous career and has been a blessing both to its members and to the community at large. The present officers are Trustees, Isaac Milburn, Aaron Snedeker, William T. Purdy, Charles R. Christie, George R. Felter, (Treasurer), Jacob V. Smith, Harmon Felter, Hiram Blair, Benjamin Gurnee (Secretary), Charles R. Lane. Stewards: Heman B. McKenzie, Alfred J. Carson, Wilson Milburn, John W. Gillies, Perry Demarest, Daniel Milburn, John Zorn, George DeWitt, Frank B. Case.

MINISTERIAL ROLL.

Preachers in charge and preachers who served Newburgh Circuit, Bergen Circuit and Haverstraw Circuit:

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| 1799. Robert Green. | 1829. Thomas Davis, James McLaurin. |
| 1800. Samuel Thomas, Elijah Woolsey. | 1830. James H. Dandy, George F. Brown. |
| 1801. Samuel Thomas, Matthias Swaim, David Best. | 1831. James H. Dandy, William Baker. |
| 1802. James Herron, Thomas Stratton. | 1832. James V. Potts, William Baker. |
| 1803. Thomas Stratton, Michael B. Bull. | 1833. Lavin M. Prettyman, Peter D. Day. |
| 1804. Robert Dillon, Isaac Candee. | 1833. Lavin M. Prettyman, Peter D. Hanley. |
| 1805. William Vredenburgh. | 1835. Isaac N. Felch, William Hanley. |
| 1806. Isaac Candee. | 1836. Isaac N. Felch, Benj. N. Reed. |
| 1807. Thomas Woolsey, Asa Cummings. | 1837. Matthew Mallinson, Alex. Gilmore. |
| 1808. John Crawford, Samuel Fowler. | 1839. Mulford Day, Lewis R. Dunn. |
| 1809. Robert Dillon, James Edwards. | 1838. Josiah F. Canfield. |
| 1810. Robert Dillon, James Sherwood. | 1840. Mulford Day. |
| 1811. John Robertson, John Finley. | 1841. Joseph Ashbrook. |
| 1812. Daniel Fidler, John Finley. | 1843-4. George F. Brown. |
| 1813. Joseph Totten, Joseph Bennett. | 1845. John N. Crane. |
| 1814. Stephen Martindale, Phineas Rice. | 1846-7. Michael E. Ellison. |
| 1815. David Best, John Finley. | 1848-9. Rodney Winans. |
| 1816. John Finley, Watters Burrows. | 1850. John W. McDougall. |
| 1817. Peter Vannest, Abram Ketchum. | 1851-2. James Ayars. |
| 1818. Joseph Lyhrand, William Smith. | 1853. James A. McFarland. |
| 1819. John Potts, Charles Pitman. | 1854-5. Joseph B. Dobbins. |
| 1820. George Banghart, Charles Pitman. | 1856-7. Francis A. Morrell. |
| | 1858-9. Nicholas VanSant. |
| | 1860-1. Jonathan T. Crane. |
| | 1862-3. James Midwinter Freeman. |

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| 1821. George Banghart, William Leonard. | 1864-7. Ralph S. Arndt. |
| 1822. Manning Force, Benjamin Collins. | 1867-9. William Tunison. |
| 1823. Benj. Collins, James Akins. | 1870-2. Thomas H. Smith. |
| 1824. Bartholomew Weed, Joseph Cary. | 1873-5. Charles Laren. |
| 1825. Bartholomew Weed, Anthony Atwood. | 1876-8. D. R. Lowery. |
| 1826. David Bartine, William A. Wiggins. | 1879-81. James R. Bryan. |
| 1827. David Bartine, William McDougle. | 1882-4. Richard Harcourt. |
| 1828. Geo. Banghart, James Lawton. | 1885-7. James W. Marshall. |
| | 1888-'90. James B. Faulks. |
| | 1889-3. M. D. Church. |
| | 1894-5. John Atkinson. |
| | 1896-7. E. M. Garten. |
| | 1898-'02. S. P. Hammond. |

THE CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Preaching having reference to the organization of a Presbyterian church in the village was begun on the second Sabbath of February, 1846. The first worshippers were but a handful. Being encouraged to go forward, they presented a petition at the next meeting of the Fourth Presbytery of New York, that a commission be sent to this village to organize a society to be called "The Central Presbyterian Church of Haverstraw." The commissioners that were appointed met with the congregation in the edifice formerly occupied by the Methodist Protestant society, on the evening of March 22, 1846, on which occasion the congregation was regularly and officially constituted and organized with nine members, namely: Epenetus Wheeler, Amos Briggs and wife, Henry Garner and wife, George Gourley and wife, James Maxwell and wife. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Erskine Mason, D. D., the charge to the two elders then installed was spoken by the Rev. Horace Eaton, and the charge to the people was laid upon them by the Rev. Edwin Holt.

This small congregation had been ministered to by several supplies when on the last Sabbath in June, of that same year, the Rev. Amassa S. Freeman came to preach for a day. As illustrating how an apparently trivial incident may influence one's whole life, Dr. Freeman himself related this circumstance: On the day when he was graduated from the theological seminary in New York one of the members of his class invited him to meet socially that evening at the house of his father in the city. When they were assembled for the last time the friend that by chance or otherwise was sitting beside Freeman remarked, 'I am engaged to preach next Sabbath at Haverstraw, but I want to go in

another direction; will you go to Haverstraw in my place?' The next Saturday afternoon Freeman was a passenger on the Warren, and that night the guest of Mr. Amos Briggs, at Samsondale. Mr. Briggs was one of the elders of the congregation, Mr. Ephnetus Wheeler being the other. The theme of the young minister's sermon the next morning at the "little church" was "God's exceeding great and precious promises."

Mr. Freeman was invited to remain for a while as a supply, and he consented. For a few Sabbaths services were held both morning and afternoon, and then for awhile in the afternoon only, as a reviving Baptist society had obtained the privilege of using the church on Sabbath morning. Already the Presbyterians had decided to build a church of their own, and a piece of land had been offered for the purpose by Judge Allison and the Rev. Edward Hopper. The following is a copy of the original subscription list now in the possession of Mr. William A. Speck: "We whose names are hereunto subscribed do respectively promise and agree to and with the Trustees of the Central Presbyterian Church of Haverstraw, to pay to them or to such committee as may be appointed by them to receive the same, the sum set opposite to our respective names, to be by them appropriated and applied solely and entirely for the purchasing and furnishing of materials for the erecting and completing of a church edifice or house of worship for said Central Presbyterian Church, which house shall cost and be valued at the sum of not less than two thousand dollars, to be located upon some site to be gratuitously obtained, and which shall be on the Ridge height of ground near the main road known as Main street, within the vicinity of the large chestnut trees just north of the village of Warren and between Division and Warren streets, and which sums here subscribed shall be considered due as soon as the sum of twelve hundred dollars shall be subscribed hereto by bonafide subscribers and payable in such installments as may be arranged, regulated and required by said trustees, to the end that the same may be completed with all practical facility and despatch. (Dated) June 22, 1846. Henry Garner, \$500; Alexander Davidson, \$25; Amos Briggs, \$100. 'I hereby pledge myself to obtain from friends of the cause in the city of New York, donations to the amount of (E. Wheeler), \$100; George L. Allison, \$15; Samuel G. Johnson, \$20; John DeBaun, \$10; John Smith, \$10; Robert Smith, \$5; George Gourley, \$5; John I. Suffern, \$100; James Maxwell, \$5; James Gourley, \$5; John English,

\$15; James Graham, \$5; Abraham Cosgrove, \$10; D. B. Loomis, \$10; Alexander Stewart, \$2; James Russell, \$5; John Hughes, \$1; John Bell, \$2; George Senior, \$1; William Watt, \$1; Thomas Boyd, \$1; Robert Lee, \$2; James Wilson, \$1; William McWilliams, \$1; John Wilson, \$1; George M. Smith, \$1; Benjamin West, \$2; M. McConnell, \$1; John Wiles, \$5; Sampson Marks, \$10; Abraham Goetschius, \$25; Samuel Knapp, \$10; G. I. Wheeler, \$5.,, (Several names undecipherable, \$4.) Mr. Hopper is famous as the author of the hymn "Jesus Savior, Pilot Me." He was the son-in-law of Elder Wheeler and assisted at the laying of the corner-stone. The era was a thriving one for the village and the congregation looked futureward with confidence. The work of construction began in the summer, and first a long shed was erected on the church lot, to serve for awhile as a temple of worship, also as a shelter for the carpenters during the building, and finally, for the horses. The first service under the shed was held on August 16th. The corner-stone was laid with appropriate ceremony on the 21st of the same month. The walls of the new building were ready for the rafters when, on October 13th, they were blown down, even to the basement windows. But they were rebuilt, and the basement of the church was opened for public worship February 7th, 1847. Thus far Mr. Freeman had been preaching as a licenciate and officiating as stated supply, but on October 14th, 1847, he was ordained to the ministry, in the Central Presbyterian Church of New York, of which the Rev. Dr. William Adams was pastor. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Erskine Mason, of the Bleeker Street Church, and the charge was given by the Rev. Dr. Adams, who had been Mr. Freeman's pastor. The new church in Haverstraw being finished, it was dedicated on September 19th, 1847. The sermon was preached by the Rev. James I. Ostrom, then Moderator of Presbytery, who had also presided at the corner-stone laying. There was a large attendance on this occasion.

The demolition of the walls was not the only crisis that the congregation passed through while the edifice was in course of erection. There had come a time when resources failed, and it seemed that the auditorium would never be completed. Then it was that the young minister, who was not yet a pastor, came to the rescue, and armed with a letter of recommendation from Presbytery, solicited and obtained financial contributions in New York. The first to respond was William E. Dodge, who

had been superintendent of the Sabbath school which as a boy Mr. Freeman had attended.

Mr. Freeman was installed as pastor on Wednesday evening, April 24, 1849. The Rev. Dr. Adams of New York preached the sermon, the Rev. Mason Noble gave the charge to the pastor, and the Rev. Thomas H. Skinner the charge to the people. The Rev. Livingston Willard, then pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, made the closing prayer. The new pastor was the son of Nathaniel and Charlotte Kettel Freeman of New York. Born in Boston Oct. 6, 1823, he was but 25 years old when installed into his first and only pastorate. A great grandfather of his, the Rev. Thomas Prentice, was pastor of the First Congregational Church of Charlestown, Mass, from 1739 until his death, at the age of eighty, in the year 1782,—a church that was burned when Charlestown was destroyed by the British, in 1775. Amassa S., the second of three sons, was prepared for college in the Cornelius Institute, under the Rev. J. J. Owens, D. D., and was graduated from the New York University in 1845, and from Union Theological Seminary in 1846. The congregation, being now fully equipped, entered upon a career which has ever since been a blessing to all connected. Up to this time Mr. Freeman had lived successively with the families of Mr. James Rutherford, Mr. Henry Garner, Mr. D. B. Loomis and Mr. John DeBaun. In 1850, it was in the month of April, he was married to May, daughter of Dr. John S. Conger of New York, at the Collegiate Reformed Church, then situated in Lafayette Place.

The next ten were years of growth for the Central Presbyterian Church; in 1860, it being necessary to enlarge the accommodations, twenty-four feet were added to the length of the building. At the re-opening, August 29th of that year, an appropriate discourse was delivered by the Rev. Charles S. Porter, then of Boston, the boyhood pastor of Mr. Freeman, in the Second Avenue Church, New York. During the war Mr. Freeman was a strong supporter of the Union cause. The twenty-fifth anniversary of the church was duly observed in 1871, and made memorable to Dr. Freeman and his wife by many expressions and tokens of affection. Then, by way of marking the thirty-seventh anniversary of this continuous ministry, in June, 1883, a tower was built upon the church, with a bell and clock. Then followed the fortieth anniversary, with a sermon from the words, "These forty years the Lord thy God

hath been with thee," the pastor being assisted on the occasion by his schoolmate and college classmate, the Rev. William P. Breed, D. D., of Philadelphia. In 1888 the entire interior of the church was remodeled and refrescoed, and a new organ placed behind the pulpit. In 1891 the forty-fifth anniversary occasion was observed, and from the text, "These forty and five years," pastor and people gratefully reviewed the dealings of Providence with them.

Dr. Freeman was spared to see the fiftieth anniversary of his ministry in Haverstraw and the great celebration which attended it. The celebration began on Sabbath morning, June 27 (1896), with jubilee services in the Opera House. Other churches in the village were closed. The house was filled to overflowing. A special choir of fifty voices led the singing. In the course of a memorable sermon Dr. Freeman said: "I trust I am grateful for the harmony that has prevailed through all these years. In our meetings of Session, in which the elders with myself have consulted together for the spiritual welfare of this church, there has been no divided counsel. I have had the co-operation of those associated with me in years past, as I have of those constituting the present Session, namely, Elders Duryea, Reynolds, Wilson, Wheeler and Cooper. The same has been true of the board of trustees. . . . I am grateful, too, that I have been permitted to serve such a people, from whom I and mine have received such uniform loyalty and kindness. Not only have they met their pecuniary obligations, but in their thoughtfulness have anticipated and cheerfully responded to every want or wish. . . . I am thankful for the pleasant relations sustained with people and pastors of other churches. . . . I think of many who loved this church, and who shared with us in its early struggles. . . . What a happy day this would have been to them!"

Afternoon services were held in the church, and the union communion service was largely attended. In the evening the principal address was delivered by the Rev. Wilson Phraner. On Monday the celebration was mainly in charge of the Presbytery of Hudson, and upwards of fifty clergymen paid their respects to Dr. Freeman. Meetings were held in the church by the Presbytery, Sabbath school and Christian Endeavor Society, morning and evening, and addresses were delivered by J. D. Hopkins, Alonzo Bedell, D. A. Melvin, Judge Alonzo Wheeler and by Rev. C. L. Thompson of New York. Tuesday was Cit-



LVALETTE WILSON.

izen's Day, and the village was handsomely decorated. In the evening there was a parade of civic societies, including the fire department. A mass meeting was held in the Opera House, with General Ira M. Hedges presiding, at which addresses were made by Rev. Eugene Hill, Rev. John Atkinson, Rev. Sylvester Malone, Regent of the State University; Rev. J. W. H. Weibel, Rev. J. R. Brown, Rev. J. W. Marshall, Rev. J. McMahon, County Judge A. S. Tompkins, J. D. Blauvelt, Judge Wheeler, Assemblyman Otis H. Cutler, Horatio N. Wood, William T. Purdy, John W. Furman, Alonzo Bedell, T. F. Redmond and W. D. Lincoln. A poem was read by Rev. W. G. Haeselbarth, of Nyack. Several choruses were sung, notably the "Gloria," from Mozart's Twelfth Mass. A band rendered a special composition entitled "Fifty Years Ago," dedicated to Dr. Freeman, and composed by Bandmaster George C. Glassing. A purse of \$2,000 was presented from the citizens by General Hedges, a gold case containing fifty dollars in gold from Iona Lodge, K. of P.; fifty dollars in gold from Sequel Lodge, I. O. O. F.; a couch from Stony Point Lodge, F. and A. M.; a chair from the Fire Department; a silver loving cup from David Pye Post, G. A. R.

That a whole village should give itself up to celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the pastorate of a minister, is sufficient evidence of the quality of that ministry, and of the place that Dr. Freeman filled in the community. The long pastoral relation was dissolved by his death on April 27, 1898. Dr. Freeman fell dead in the street near the Methodist Episcopal Church, at 4 p. m., when out making pastoral calls. Rev. Dr. D. F. Bonner of Florida, N. Y., presided at the funeral service in the Central Presbyterian Church, and remarks were made by Revs. W. W. Atterbury, D. D., J. E. Lloyd, G. H. Wallace, Dr. Charles Beattie, Dr. Phraner and J. B. Faulks. A flag which Dr. Freeman had presented for the ladies of the village to Captain Pye's company on their departure for the war, was draped over his coffin. The interment was in Mount Repose Cemetery.

The present pastor is the Rev. George H. Munsell, the elders are Isaac Duryea, H. M. Reynolds, Alonzo Wheeler, L. Wilson, D. C. Woolsey, John Eckerson. Trustees, William H. Carr, Charles A. Zundie, Henry C. Vervalen, Alonzo Bedell, Oscar Reynolds.

ST. PETER'S.

The first mass celebrated in Haverstraw was about 1843, at the home of Patrick Reilly, in the old stone house north of the First Presbyterian Church. Until regular services were instituted here, it was the custom of the Catholics on the west side of the river to attend mass at Verplanck's Point. An arrangement was made after a time by which Father Hackett of Ver Planck's Point gave part of his services to the people of Haverstraw for about five years, celebrating mass for them on Sundays as often as he conveniently could, for a while in the old stone house of Mr. Reilly and afterwards on the upper floor of a building at Benson's Corners, in West Haverstraw. Meanwhile funds were being raised with which to build an edifice. The first resident pastor was Father McGuire, but he remained only for a few weeks, and again for a time Father Hackett, of VerPlanck's Point, ministered to the congregation on alternate Sundays. In 1849 Father McKeon was sent to Haverstraw as resident pastor. The church edifice was in course of construction when he arrived, and it had not been finishel long before it was necessary to enlarge it. Father McKeon continued as pastor for three years and was succeeded by Rev. Terrence Scollon, in August, 1852. No records of a date anterior to Father Scollon's time have been found. In 1857 the Rev. Patrick Mahoney became the pastor and during his term the rectory in Ridge street, now used as a convent by the Sisters in charge of St. Peter's School, was built; also the Church of the Immaculate Conception at Tompkins Cove.

Father Mahoney's pastorate is notable further because of the erecting of the present church edifice on Broadway. The date of its completion was 1869. Father Mahoney continued as pastor nineteen years, and was succeeded temporarily by the Rev. William P. O'Kelly. The Rev. Henry P. Baxter was made permanent pastor in 1876. His first important work was to purchase and lay out the present Cemetery of St. Peter, in 1877. Next he erected the present parochial residence on Broadway, adjoining the new church, and on September 8, 1844, opened St. Peter's Parochial School. His last work of note was the building of the church at Grassy Point. He died in September, 1891, after a pastorate of nearly fifteen years. He was succeeded by the Rev. Thomas F. McGare, the present pastor, who had been an assistant of the priest

in the parish since 1878. The church debt at that time was \$42,000, but in less than six years afterward it was cleared off. Father McGare also completed the church by erecting thereon a steeple. At a cost of two thousand dollars he put in a steam plant. He put in new cathedral stained glass windows and set up a beautiful brass altar rail. He put in a chime of ten bells in the belfrey, thus giving to St. Peter's the distinction of being the second church in the Archdiocese of New York, the cathedral of St. Patrick's being the first, to possess a chime of bells. He had the church beautifully frescoed and put in a large Jardine organ. He also had the outer walls of the church pointed up and painted, and new gutters built around the entire church. He beautified the churchyard, converted the old church building into a beautiful hall and built two school buildings, one by the side of the new hall, the other at its rear. His latest work was the erecting of a new sacristy.

For several years he attended the missions at Grassy Point and Congers. In the latter place, in 1893, he built the Church of St. Paul. Some time afterwards, however, he lost both missions. In 1894 Grassy Point was given to Tompkins Cove parish and in January, 1896, the Rev. Michael Mulhern was appointed first resident pastor of St. Paul's Church, Congers.

GERMAN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH.

This congregation was formed in 1875 (October 9) by the union of the First German Evangelical and the Trinity Lutheran Churches. The Rev. Herman Schoppe was the first minister under the new organization. The house of worship was originally erected for the Methodist Pretestants. A parsonage is also owned by the congregation. Well remembered ministers, besides Mr. Schoppe since the union, have been the Rev. Alfred Tilley, Mr. Franke, Charles J. Spillman and Marin Holls.

Services for German people were first held in Haverstraw in 1857, from which time to the organization of the German United Societies, in 1861, the people were ministered to by the pastor of the Dutch Evangelical Church of Clarkstown, the Rev. Mr. Wahrenberger, who continued to occupy the pulpit until 1866. He was succeeded by the Rev. Mr. Wirtz, who was followed in 1867 by the Rev. Mr. Berger, under whom there was a division in the congregation. Some left and organized another congregation, which worshipped in Division street. Mr.

Berger preached there for a time and was succeeded by the Rev. Mr. Somers. The Rev. Mr. Meinacher, pastor of the old church, died suddenly while pastor, and was succeeded by the Rev. Stricker, Weisel Winteciek and Schoppe. Under the last named the division was healed and the two congregations reunited.

ST. LUKE'S PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

St. Luke's parish was incorporated as an independent parish on the 9th of September, 1871, under the laws of the State of New York. The services of the Episcopal Church had been held for a number of years previously, first by the Rev. J. B. Gibson, D. D., then rector of Trinity parish, and after him by the Rev. Ebenezer Gay, Jr. St. Luke's parish owns a building which it bought from a society of Baptists who were unable to maintain a foothold.

The services of the church were abandoned for about a dozen years, but were resumed permanently near the close of the year 1893, when the present rector, the Rev. William A. Masker, was called, and he has maintained the services regularly since.

The Rev. Dr. J. B. Gibson organized the parish, and after him it was ministered to by the Rev. Walter Delafield, D. D., late of Chicago, and now deceased, and by the Rev. A. T. Ashton, now Archdeacon of Dutchess.

CONGREGATION OF THE SONS OF JACOB.

Previous to the year 1897 the Jewish brethren of this town assembled together for worship at a private house. In that year the congregation was organized in the Simons building, with the Rev. A. Epstein as rabbi, and the following officers; President, A. Goldstein; Vice President, S. Roskam; Secretary, William Levi; Treasurer, H. Simon. The number of members was about fifteen. The church was completed and dedicated September 6, 1899. The Rev. Dr. Drachamen of New York, the Rev. P. Mendes of New York assisted Rabbi Epstein at the didicatory service, and several clergymen of the village, namely, the Rev. Messrs. Bonsal, Hammond and Masker, were also present. The Rev. Mr. Epstein continued as rabbi for three years; the present rabbi is the Rev. M. Silverman. Officers in 1902: President, H. Simon; Vice

President, C. Sandusky; Secretary, M. Lichenstein; Treasurer, M. Warschaur. Trustees, A. Goldstein, William Levi, L. Slack: The religious school in connection with the congregation meets regularly in the basement of the church.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH AT THEILLS.

This society, situated in the hamlet of Theill's, had its origin nearly, if not quite a century ago. The first meeting was held in the private residence of John Theills by the circuit rider of that time, and the society was part of the old Haverstraw circuit, having preaching once a month. The circuit extended almost to Trenton, N. J., and was supplied by two preachers. Among the first were Bishop Ashbury, Henry Beam and George Banghart. The charge was first known as North Haverstraw, and has been identified with Garnerville and St. George, Haverstraw and Johnstontown at different times, but in 1902 stands alone, with a membership of 75, a parsonage well furnished, and with Dr. E. F. Fowler as pastor, who succeeded the Rev. R. B. Lockwood. In 1835, during the pastorate of the Rev. Isaac N. Feleh, the church edifice was built and the Sabbath school organized.

SOCIETIES.

Iona Lodge, No. 128, Knights of Pythias, has been a social institution of the village of Haverstraw since December 7, 1874. It was organized by fifteen members, with the following officers: C. C., Alonzo Bedell; V. C., Lewis Levison; Prelate, M. Richman; K. R. S., Henry Hahan; M. E., Lewis Eckstein; M. F., Edward Bedell; M. A., Cyrillus Myers; I. G., Marcus Washburn; O. G., Edward Schmohl. The lodge moved from temporary quarters on the first of April, 1875, to the top floor of the DeBaun building, in Main street, thence to the McKenzie building, in Third street, 1879, and to the Johnston building, next to the National Bank, in 1897. Number of members, 112; one of whom, Alonzo Bedell, has been the Grand Chancellor of the Grand Domain of New York, and later was one of the four Supreme Representatives from this Grand Domain. Officers in 1902: C. C., George Lambert; V. C., Valentine Stock; Prelate, Edward Stubbins; K. R. S., Charles H. Zun-

del; M. E., Henry Furman; M. A., Frank S. Terry; I. G., Edward this Grand Domain. Lodge officers in 1902: C. C., George Lambert; V. C., Valentine Stock; Prelate, Edward Stubbins; K. R. S., Charles H. Zundel; M. E., Henry Furman; M. A., Frank S. Terry; I. G., Edward Bedell; O. G., N. B. Brooks.

Court Rockland, Foresters of America, was organized in Haverstraw village in September, 1891, with Michael Lowery as Chief Ranger; Michael McCabe, Financial Secretary; Andrew Donnelly, Treasurer. The court has paid out up to the present year about \$6,000. The lodge-rooms are in the Opera House building; number of members, 71. Officers in 1902: Michael McCabe, Chief Ranger; Henry Toppin, Sub-Chief Ranger; Robert F. Hackbart, Financial Secretary; John J. Finnegan, Treasurer, William Tierney, Recording Secretary.

Court Garnerville, Foresters of America was organized at Garnerville in 1895. The court has 150 members and owns its building. John McNee is the Chief Ranger; John Cox, Recording Secretary; John Murray, Treasurer.

Stony Point Lodge, No. 313, F. & A. M., of Haverstraw Village. Instituted June 17, A. L., 5853. Past Masters: Henry Christie, 1853; John Hunting, 1854; Joseph Brower, 1854; Edward Pye, 1856; John I. Cole, 1857; William Call, 1858; George S. Oldfield, 1859-'61; William H. Wiles, 1862-4; Stephen G. Newman, 1865; L. V. E. Robinson, 1866-8; A. E. Suffern, D. D., G. M., 1870, '71, '78; Charles H. Briggs, 1869, '72, '73; O. W. Parsons, 1874, '75, '82; L. O. Markham, P. A. G. L., 1879, '80, '81, '83; John D. Norris, 1884, '85; Irving Brown, 1886-7; H. B. Hargraves; R. W. Oldfield, P. A. G. L., 1889-'90; William T. Purdy, 1891-2; Charles K. Baum, 1893-4; C. I. Springsteen, 1895-6; H. W. Babcock, 1897-8; N. B. Bayley, 1899-1900; Alonzo Wheeler, 1876, '77, 1901. Officers for 1902: C. H. Zundel, Master; Rev. W. A. Masker, S. W.; James C. Dick, J. W.; O. E. Reynolds, Treasurer; C. H. Newman, Secretary; L. O. Markham, S. D.; G. O. Bedford, J. D.; Alonzo Wheeler, Chaplain; R. W. Oldfield, Marshal; Frank S. Allison, S. M. of C.; R. J. Taylor, J. M. of C.; Henry Furman and Adolph Goldstein, Stewards; J. B. Weygant, Tyler; C. L. Springsteen, N. B. Bayley, Alonzo Wheeler. The lodge rooms are in the Fowler building, corner of Main and Fourth streets.

THE HAVERSTRAW CLUB.

This club was organized in 1893, as the Haverstraw Bicycle Club, with five members enrolled. In 1895 the name was changed to the Haverstraw Club. It has now (1902) a membership of 152. 121 resident, 31 non-resident, and one honorary member, and is officered as follows: O. E. Reynolds, President; J. S. Penny, Vice-President; H. M. Purdy, Secretary, and D. F. Lake, Financial Secretary and Treasurer. D. Fowler, Jr., G. A. Pray, F. D. Taylor, Robert Blair and W. H. Parkton, Directors.

A CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE.

CASUALTIES.

1831, June 7.—Explosion of the General Jackson at Grassy Point. Fourteen persons killed, including John Glass, founder of the Print Works.

1837, May 26.—Death of Major Shubeal P. Peck and Henry Beecher. In company with John J. Peck and Amos Briggs, they were sailing in a small steam pleasure boat, which had been constructed under the supervision of Major Peck for the double purpose of navigating the creek and to make a practical application of the science of engineering, a study to which he was much devoted. They had proceeded down the stream nearly a mile, when the boiler exploded. Mr. Beecher and Major Peck were killed and the boat was sunk. S. P. Peck was only twenty-two and had been connected in business with his father under the firm name of E. Peck & Son. Mr. Beecher was the manager of the chemical works and a lieutenant in the Warren Grays.

1838, March.—Calico works partly burned. Murder committed in the upper part of Haverstraw; Elisha Babcock killed with a stone.

1846, January 21.—The Academy burned down. October 9.—The scaffolding of the new Presbyterian Church fell; several workmen badly hurt. October 13.—Hurricane; the walls of the new Presbyterian Church fell; brickyards damaged greatly.

1849, July and August.—A number of deaths from cholera.

1850, May 28.—J. Martling's house destroyed by fire. This was the first house erected in Haverstraw village, and stood at the corner of Main and

Front, the site now occupied by the U. S. Hotel. June 22.—The steamboat Warren burned to-day near New York. August 18.—The father of Amos Briggs instantly killed by being thrown from a wagon. April 6—Levi DeNoyelles killed on the Hudson River railroad.

1853, July 9.—Building at the chemical works blown down; several lives lost.

MEMORABLE EVENTS.

1810.—First schoolhouse built.

1815.—Post Office established.

1831.—Methodist Protestant Church (now German Lutheran) erected.

1835.—Six bears killed in the Haverstraw Mountains. A very hard winter; snow four feet deep on the level.

1835.—A new steamboat built, called the Warren; cost \$30,000.

1837, January.—An exceptionally brilliant display of northern lights.

1837.—Felter's corner (northwest corner of Main and Front) sold to Isaac B. Van Houten, for \$6,000.

1837.—Wire factory and calico works stopped. Great pressure for money; heavy failures in New York, Boston and New Orleans. Specie very scarce; commands 20 per cent. Hard times.

1837.—Village of Warren laid out.

1837, May 4.—A new steamboat, called the Arrow, started at Nyack.

1838, March.—More pigeons flying this winter than in many years past.

1838, March.—The steamboat Orange came on in opposition to the Warren.

1838.—Rockland county election: Haverstraw, Van Buren, maj., 45; Clarkstown, Van Buren, maj., 355; Ramapo, Van Buren, maj., 89; Orangetown, Van Buren maj., 162. William H. Seward elected Governor; Whigs celebrate the victory at Smith's Hotel.

1839.—The steamboat Orange sold for \$4,150, the stock-holders losing all.

1839, July 4.—Celebration in Haverstraw; oration by H. G. Prall in M. E. Church, military parade and boat races.

1839, July 12.—President Van Buren landed at Grassy Point; welcomed by populace. An accident happened; the gang plank broke, throwing three persons into the water; no one was drowned, but an elderly man lost his wig. (Mr. H. B. McKenzie, who at this date (1902) still resides in Haverstraw, was present on this occasion.)

1839, July 12.—A water spout seen on the Tappan Zee.

1839.—The Pulaski Cadets from New York encamped nine days on the plateau on northern edge of the village, and were visited by a military company from Tappan. A sword that was presented to Captain William McArdle, the commander of the cadets, by the citizens of Haverstraw, is now owned by District Attorney Thomas H. Lee. Captain McArdle afterward married the daughter of Judge Allison.

1840, March.—Presbyterian Church organized at Haverstraw, Rev. James Hildreth pastor.

1840, December 16.—New M. E. Church dedicated; sermon by Rev. Charles Pitman. Great revival; one hundred converted.

1841.—Erie railroad under construction.

1841.—Post Office removed from William B. Westervelt's to DeNoyelles & Gurnee's store, Lawrence DeNoyelles having been appointed Postmaster.

1842, January.—James Miller appointed keeper of the Stony Point light-house, vice Benjamin Coe.

1843.—A choir established in the gallery of the M. E. Church.

1844, January 4.—Revival in the Presbyterian Church near Garnerville.

1844.—Death of Mrs. Waldron, aged 104.

1844.—Singing association formed.

1844, September.—Horace Greely addressed a Whig meeting at Benson's Hall.

1844, November.—Argument between Dr. Jones and Dr. Purdue on medicine.

1844, November.—The village full of people looking for houses on account of the carpet factory coming.

1844, December 12.—Peter DeNoyelles, an old resident, died.

1845, January 20.—The carpet factory in partial operation. New brick-yards starting near the village.

1845, February 24.—Great commotion in the village; three children at one birth.

1845.—Rev. J. N. Crane, a notable pastor of the M. E. Church, appointed.

1845.—The place filled with strangers. More rum sold in Haverstraw than ever before.

1845, May 27.—A lecture in the Academy on animal magnetism, by Prof. Loomis; great wonder among the people.

1845, May.—The Temperance Glee Club of Paterson gave a concert in Haverstraw; "a new thing." The George Smith place sold for a large price, \$2,630.

1845, August 15.—A new military company forming in the village.

1845, October 1.—General training; officers and men all green. Singing school organized by H. B. McKenzie.

1846, February 2.—Thirteen hundred dollars voted for a new schoolhouse, the Academy having been destroyed by fire.

1846, February 8.—The new Presbyterian preacher preached in the small church.

1846, May 3.—Great excitement about the new schoolhouse; petition against appropriating as much as \$1,300. "Peace has left our borders." The church (Presbyterian) in a ferment on account of two preachers, one opposed to the other.

1846, May 24.—Excitement throughout the country on the license question.

1846, March 24.—At a missionary meeting in the M. E. Church, \$110 raised, which was the largest sum ever given by the congregation to that date.

1846, April 22.—Another Presbyterian Church organized.

1846, May 16.—A new paper started, called the Rockland County Messenger. The town voted no-license by 222 majority.

1846, June 4.—The Baptists organized a church.

1846, August 12.—The new schoolhouse going up.

1846, August 21.—Corner-stone of the Central Presbyterian Church laid.

1846, September.—A great amount of trouble about the district school-house; quite an excitement whether Mr. Loomis, the school teacher, shall be sustained or not.

1846, October 9.—District school meeting; the teacher sustained by a vote of 32 to 15.

1846, October 13.—"Haverstraw getting to be a very wicked place as our population increases."

1846, October 23.—Mr. Anson Nash, an old resident, died this morning.

1846, November 3.—Carpet weavers on strike. Twenty-one indictments for selling liquor without a license in our county.

1846, December 3.—The A. M. E. Zion Church dedicated.

1847.—The Baptist Church (now St. Luke's Episcopal) dedicated.

1848.—The Temperance House opened.

1848.—Warren foundry opened by Myron Ward and R. A. Vervalen, on the river front.

1849, January 16.—Death of Hugh Irving, the superintendent of the carpet factory.

1849, February 5.—The First Presbyterian Church dedicated. Concert given by H. B. McKenzie.

1849, March 7.—The country filled with foreigners.

1849, March 29.—The Protestant Methodists have re-opened their church and have a stationed preacher.

1849, April 25.—Rev. A. S. Freeman ordained.

1849.—Death of Abraham Goetschius, John Bulson, David Purdy, Mrs. Alfred Marks.

1849, November 17.—Carpet factory partly stopped.

- 1850, January 1.—More brickyards going up.
 1850, February 3.—J. Sherwood appointed Postmaster.
 1850, May 1.—Eight licenses to sell liquor granted. Dr. Austin settles here.
 1850, August 3.—The carpet factory permanently closed, and the employes moving away.
 1850, September.—E. and A. Marks going into the brick business with John J. Peck.
 1850.—Died: Miss Catherine Allison, Miss Sarah June, Mrs. John I. Cole, Samuel G. Johnson, Samuel Demarest, William Rose, Mrs. Daniel Springsteen.
 1850, September 23.—Began to burn "spurt gas" in the stores.
 1851, May 15.—Erie railroad opened to Dunkirk.
 1851, September 28.—St. Peter's Catholic Church dedicated.
 1851.—Died: Miss Emira Riker, Miss Anna Nye, B. F. Gardner, Benjamin Coe, Aunt Derrika DeNoyelles, Abram J. Snedeker.
 1852.—United States Hotel built.
 1852.—Died: Mrs. Ezra Mead, Captain Jacob Archer, Ezra Mead, Jr.
 1853.—Mount Repose Cemetery dedicated.
 1854.—Warren Hall opened.
 1854.—First fire company organized.
 1856.—Trinity P. E. Church dedicated.

References: The chronological record was mainly compiled from an old diary by Mr. Heman B. McKenzie. "Glimpses of Nearly One Hundred Years of Methodism in Haverstraw," by Rev. James M. Faulks, A. M. (1891). "Historical Sketches of Rockland County Sabbath Schools," compiled by Heman B. McKenzie (1884). Files of the Rockland County Messenger. "Reopening at Haverstraw," by Rev. J. T. Crane (1861). County, Town and Village Records. Recollections by Mr. Heman B. McKenzie. Freeman Papers and Historical Documents loaned by Mr. W. A. Speck. Hist. Haverstraw, by Rev. A. S. Freeman, D. D., and W. S. Pelletreau, M. A., in Cole's Rockland County. "New York at Gettysburgh"—State Publication. "The Erection of Churches in Haverstraw," by E. B. Weiant. "The Manufacture of Brick, Tiles and Terra Cotta," by Charles Thomas Davis. "The Chimes," a quarterly devoted to St. Peter's Church. For many of the statistics of local brick-making the publishers are indebted to Mr. Josiah Felter. "Building Fund Souvenir" of the King's Daughters Society.

For article on Haverstraw Schools the publishers are indebted to Mr. L. Wilson.

CHAPTER XVII.

TOWN OF ORANGETOWN.

By A. W. VanKeuren.

Sturdy, indeed, and of good stock were the sixteen Hollanders who first came to settle in that part of this commonwealth now known as Orangetown, if one may judge by their descendants, some of whom still live in the town, and, by diligence, honesty, frugality and perseverance, still hold portions of the land which their ancestors purchased from the Indians on March 24, 1686. Indeed, the Orangetown of to-day would lose at least a part of its charm were it deprived of the Smiths, Coopers, and Harings who now live here and prosper on the domain which was included in the purchase of 1686. The ancestral stock was prolific and descendants of the sixteen original settlers, as generation after generation has come, have spread to different quarters of the globe, but the fruits of the hardy Holland seed, sowed in this township when its history was the early history of the county, are still seen and identified with numerous important interests here.

The tract purchased by these first settlers was about eight miles in length and ranged from two to five miles in width. It extended south to a point which is now considerably below the northern boundary line of the State of New Jersey, and north by what in early days was known as the Greenbush swamp. The pretty range of mountains which extends from West Nyack to Sparkill—using the names by which those places are now known—formed the eastern boundary of the land purchased, while the Hackensack Creek bordered the property on the west side. This land, waiting to be tilled and made productive, was much cheaper then than it is now, for the purchase was confirmed by an instrument written under the hand of Governor Thomas Dongan of the Province of New York, in the reign of James II., the conditions being that the purchasers should agree to pay sixteen bushels of wheat every year to the King's representative in New York. The granters were: Cornelius Claas Cooper, Daniel DeClark, Peter Haring, Catye Haring, Gerritt Stemmitts, John Devries, Sr., John Devries, Jr., Clause Maunde, John

Stratemaker, Staats DeGroat, Arian Lammerts, Lammert Ariansen, Huyberts Gerritts, Johannes Gerritts, Eide Van Vorst and Cornelius Lammerts.

The above purchase of land was made from the Tappan Indians, and the grant was known both as the Tappan Patent and Orangetown Patent. In this patent was given the name of the town of Orange. At that time the division line between the colonies of New York and New Jersey had not been agreed upon, and there had, it seems, been some dispute over it. When the division line was finally formed satisfactorily, a part of the grant was taken by Bergen county, New Jersey, and the area of Orangetown was cut down to 16.023 acres.

The village of Tappan was duly organized by the Holland farmers of 1686, and was the first organized settlement within about forty miles north of the New Jersey line. They called the place Tappantown, and until recently the post office was known by that name. Now, however, with two railroads running through that historic region, Tappantown seemed too old fashioned for the population of these recent years, and the "town" was dropped from the name.

Where the present village of Piermont is situated was known as Tappan Landing. The creek which now bears the name of the Sparkill was then the Tappan Slote.

What is now known as Rockland county was in the seventeenth century Orange county, and in 1693, when the first census was taken, Orange county had only 21 families and 219 inhabitants, all of whom lived in Orangetown. By the enumerations in years after that and up to 1702, the population had increased in the latter year to 40 families—nearly doubling—while the entire population at that time was 268—an increase of 49 in nine years. At that time slaves were owned by a number of the families, and for a great deal longer than a century afterward, passing down from generation to generation, the same as the property owned by the inhabitants. These slaves, there is every reason to believe, were well treated, and in some instances fared nearly as well as members of the families by whom they were kept. One of the largest and best farms settled in Orangetown in those early days is still owned and occupied by direct descendants of one of the early settlers, and has never gone out of the possession of some branch of the family. This property is known as the Gilbert D. Blauvelt farm, situated at Orange-

burg, and it is now occupied by Mr. Edwin Lydecker, who is the present Supervisor of the town of Orangetown. Mr. Lydecker's wife is the daughter of the late Gilbert D. Blauvelt. The latter was the son of David D. Blauvelt, who was the son of David Blauvelt. David Blauvelt was the son-in-law of Isaac Perry, and Isaac Perry was the son of John Perry, who early in 1755 was the owner of a goodly number of slaves. Supervisor Lydecker has in his possession a bill of sale for a negro purchased by John Perry when the latter owned the farm, and this document has been sacredly preserved through the different generations down to the present time. John Perry paid the sum of thirty-one pounds current money of New York "to Lawrence Jance Van Birkerpk, of the county of Bergen, New Jersey, for one negro boy called Isaiah, to be sound, without any ailments." This bill of sale is dated April 7th, 1755, and in signing it the seller of the negro said: "I have hereunto set my hand and seal this seventh day of April, in the twenty-eighth year of the reign of our Sovereign and Lord, King George the Second of Great Britain."

A careful search through the census returns of Orangetown in its early history shows that its returns were for the entire county, and it is impossible at any time before the year 1738 to ascertain with any certainty the number of inhabitants according to the limits of the towns. In 1738 Eager's History of Orange County gives the population of each town, but no accurate census figures are found again until 1790. After this date, however, the census returns are returned regularly every ten years without interruption. In 1790 Orangetown's population was 1,175; in 1800, 1,337; in 1810, 1,583; in 1820, 2,257; in 1825, State census, 1,536; in 1835, 2,079; in 1845, 3,227; in 1855, 5,838; in 1865, 6,166; in 1870, U. S. census, 6,810; in 1880, 8,266; in 1890, 10,343; in 1900, 10,456.

The customs of the early Dutch settlers of Orangetown were so different from those followed at the present time, that when told they seem to the generation of the twentieth century like the tales of some unknown land far beyond the sea. Tell the youth of 1902, who is inspired by the lightning methods of to-day and lives in hopes of greater discoveries in every year of his life, that in the early days of this township in which he lives no fire was made in the church in which his far back ancestors, or the ancestors of some of his friends, worshipped in Winter, and he

will shiver at the very thought; but such is the fact. The older women kept their feet warm by means of foot stoves, but even then they must have shivered until their teeth chattered. There were no special principles of temperance in those days, and the men, when not clothed sufficiently to keep the cold air from penetrating to their bodies, stopped in a nearby tavern before church service and fortified themselves with a goodly quaff of hot gin, so they might listen to the sermon with some comfort. Whether they really accomplished this will never be known, but, in modern times at least, a glass of hot gin would not be sufficient to keep the average man at a church service with the mercury away below the freezing point. In Summer time it was doubtless more of a pleasure to attend church services, for the men and women came then early, gathered in small groups, or in a large crowd, on the lawn in front of the house of worship, and talked over their affairs with one another, and this promoted a social spirit which made life a little more worth living than if they had no relief from their daily hum-drum.

Perhaps no change has been more marked since the days of the early settlers of Orangetown than that in the architecture of the houses, and yet in these first days of the twentieth century there appears to be a desire on the part of many to go back to the times of their ancestors for designs for at least a portion of a house they wish to build and occupy. In doing so, however, modern architecture, while accepting some of the ideas of the old Dutch builders, do not accept with them the discomforts of the houses of the olden time, but instead, they introduced features of beauty and comfort of which the settlers of Orangetown never dreamed. The first houses erected were log cabins, with very large fire places. These were for cooking their food and warming the rooms. Years later houses of stone were built, and we still occasionally see a few of these edifices in traveling through the town. The succeeding generation improved upon these stone houses by building larger ones, with more rooms and large halls. These, too, were gradually changed, and each succeeding generation studied comfort and convenience more than the one which preceded it. The old stone houses, and then the log houses, gradually were abandoned by those who sought newer and better things, and then frame buildings of various designs sprang up here and

there. Now one, in looking over the lands where the early settlers of Orangetown reared their families in humble structures, with possibly all the comforts which then were suggested, sees some of the most beautiful styles of architecture that modern taste can design and modern skill can construct.

Here and there, but growing scarcer every decade, one still finds evidences of the industry of the early settlers in the rare old spinning wheels that are kept almost sacred by the fortunate possessors. Ten years ago a Nyack physician, who has since removed to the city, took pride in searching out and buying up old spinning wheels and other articles of the olden times, and secured an interesting collection of them. These things represented a vast amount of toil, for there were no cotton or cotton mills in those times, and the spinning of wool and flax for clothing was a necessity, while the weaving was done in the family.

The first record found of a town election in Orangetown is that of the first Tuesday in April, 1744, and the first town officers were: Henry Ludlow, Town Clerk and Supervisor; John Cornelius Haring and John Ackerson, Overseers of the Fences; Dolph Lent, Constable; John Ferdon, John Nagle, John Perry, Commissioners of the Highway; Overseers of the High Road: Robert Holley, for the Greenbush road; J. Bartus Blaufelt, for the wagon road; Daniel Vervelia, for Closter; Thomas Van Houtten, for Skeairday; Daniel Blaufilt, for John Clous Sand; Johannis Bogart, for the mill road; Johannis Meyer, Pound Master; Remier Wortendyke, Direk, and Fred Bogard, Assessors; John ———, Peter Dau, to rec'd the quit rent; Daniel S. Kineman and Cornelius Tallman, Overseers of the Poor; Abraham Smith, Collector.

Following is a list of Supervisors of Orangetown from 1722 to 1902: Rinear Kisanke, 1722; Cornelius Haring, 1723-'28; Cornelius Smith, 1729-'31; Barent Nagle, 1732-'33; Gabriel Ludlow, Jr., 1734-'39; Henry Ludlow, 1740-'46; John Ferdon, 1747; Adolph Lent, 1748-'57; David Blauvelt, 1758-'59; Daniel Haring, 1760-'63; Abraham Haring, 1764; Johannes Blauvelt, 1765; Thomas Outwater, 1766-'74; John M. Hogencamp, 1779, 1780, '83, 1796; Jonathan Lawrence, 1782; James Perry, 1797, 1800, '04; James Demarest, 1801; Samuel G. VerBryck, 1802, '03, '06, '19, '28, '29; James Perry, 1804-5; John Perry, 1820; Richard Ellsworth, 1823; William Sickles, 1824-'27; Isaac J. Blauvelt,

1830-'34; Benjamin Blackledge, 1835-'38; John Haring, Jr., 1839-'41; John J. Haring, 1842; John T. Blauvelt, 1843-'45; John S. VerBryck, 1846-'47; Simon D. Demarest, 1848-'49; William G. Smith, 1850-'51; John C. Blauvelt, 1852-54; J. J. Lawrence, 1855; M. M. Dickman, 1856-'57; James S. Haring, 1858, '63, '65, '71; William Dickey, 1863-'64; Isaac M. Dederer, 1872-'73; D. D. Demarest, 1874-'75; Henry A. Blauvelt, 1876-'79; Hagaman Onderdonk, 1882; George Dickey, 1880, '81, '83, '84, '85; Henry E. Smith, 1886; A. X. Fallon, 1887, '08, '09, 1890, '91; C. V. A. Blauvelt, 1892-3; A. X. Fallon, 1894, '95, '96, '97, '98, '99; James VanWeelden, 1900-1; Edwin Lydecker, 1902.

VILLAGES OF ORANGETOWN.

If the history of the villages of Orangetown is to begin with that which was first started, it is necessary to first write of Tappan, but the history of this pleasant little village, aside from its important identification with the days of the American Revolution, will not be as long in print as the number of years of existence would suggest it might be. Tappan is the oldest village in Rockland county, and yet, in latter years, it has not made history as rapidly as other villages in the town. The early days of Tappan gave the place the fame which still clings to it. The larger villages of Nyack and Piermont have made their reputation through the channels of business since the days of the Revolution, but not so Tappan. While the hand of improvement has been at work in that village and vicinity, building up waste places and erecting on the slopes and hillsides a goodly number of beautiful homes, in some of which live worthy and refined families, and evidence of culture in music and art abound, yet the name of the place is seldom mentioned without turning the memory far backward, not only to the days when Washington's Army was encamped there and the closing scenes of the Andre episode were enacted, but back still farther, to the days of the old "Mabie Inn," known since the Revolution as the '76 House. This house was the first tavern in this county, and in 1753 Casparus Mabie purchased it from Cornelius Meyers, and kept it for many years. It was a favorite road house, even after other taverns sprang up, and from indications in this year of 1902, it promises to continue its popularity longer than the

present generation will live, for it has never been in better condition than now. Mabie sold the '76 House to Frederick Blauvelt, and in 1800 the latter disposed of it to Philip Duboy, who conducted it as a tavern for at least eighteen or twenty years. The record is not quite complete as to this. After Dubey died, the proprietors of the tavern who followed him were Thomas Wandle, Lawrence T. Snedin and Henry Ryerson. Dr. John T. Stephens purchased the property in 1857, and owned it for forty years. During the time it was in Dr. Stephen's possession the interior gradually went into decay, while a part of the exterior had a tumble-down appearance. For several of the latter years of his life Dr. Stephens refused to allow any visitor into the old '76 House, and scores came there who went away disappointed. Some who had come hundreds of miles to visit the historic points in the East, when they found themselves at Tappan, would hasten to the '76 House, expecting to enter its doors and see the room where Andre had been kept, and where, years before the Revolution, travelers had gathered to refresh themselves with the beverages kept "on tap," but when they asked for permission to thus gratify their desire, the doctor would pleasantly but firmly refuse. The most notable incident of this kind occurred some six or seven years ago, when a large party of Historic Pilgrims who had started out to visit all the historic spots in the Eastern and Middle States, came to Tappan. This party first went to Washington View Park, where General Washington's army was encamped for a long time. This park is now the property of Mrs. M. E. Barber, who, with her brother, Major Harold, and her two sons, occupy the large mansion erected thereon a few years before. Here the pilgrims were well entertained and given all the information they desired. Their next objective point was the '76 Stone House, and approaching Dr. Stephens hopefully and pleasantly, they asked permission to enter the old house. Their surprise may be imagined when their request was refused. All pleading was in vain, and the pilgrims finally left, feeling the disappointment keenly. They then went to the house known as "Washington's Headquarters," which was built in 1700. John DeWint, a wealthy planter from the West Indies, purchased the property in the middle of the eighteenth century. His children and grandchildren occupied the house during the Revolution, and General Washington selected it as his headquarters at different times when he stayed at Tappan. The last time he was in this house is

believed to have been in the winter of 1783, when a fierce snow storm set in and detained him and several of his officers for a few days.

The '76 Stone House has had an eventful history in the last five years. During a heavy gale of wind and rain a large part of the front of the building fell in, exposing to view the interior on the easterly side. As soon as this became known parties came for miles to get bricks from the fallen structure, but the owner soon put a stop to this. Afterward Charles A. Pike, a well to do resident of Tappan, purchased the property for \$2,000. He at once restored the wrecked side of the old house and employed skilled mechanics to make it stronger than it had been in a century or more. The large room on the north, in which Major Andre was imprisoned awaiting his doom, Mr. Pike had transformed into a ball room for dancing parties. He at first sold only temperance drinks over the bar where in olden times the old settlers had quenched their thirst with something a great deal stronger, and many parties, large and small, visited the place. Mr. Pike afterward procured a license to sell liquor and now, under the management of Proprietor Collignon, who leases the place, the old '76 House is still conducted as a road house and has many visitors.

On Andre Hill, where Cyrus W. Field had erected a monument to mark the spot where Andre was executed, bearing an inscription furnished by Dean Stanley, evidence still remains of the blowing up of the monument by an ardent patriot who objected to the words of eulogy. This property was sold for non-payment of taxes four years ago and was purchased by George Dickey of Nyack, who now represents Rockland County in the Assembly at Albany. The taxes and fees were afterward paid by the owner of the property and the wrecked monument and the site upon which it stands were redeemed. The taxes due on the property the last year were paid, so, unexpectedly to some who attended the tax sale in December, 1901, it was not again put up for sale.

BLAUVELT.

Greenbush was the pleasing name by which this village was known until the construction of the Erie road now known as the Piermont branch. After that road was built the place was named after Judge Cornelius J. Blauvelt, who was the most prominent citizen of the neigh

borhood. The first storekeeper there, so far as is known, was John Blauvelt, who was succeeded by Judge Blauvelt; the latter was succeeded by Isaac Dederer, and he by Smith Demarest. The store passed from the hands of the latter into those of John Raab, who conducted it until 1882. Edebohls & Lediger built and opened a store in 1867. This firm continued the business until 1871, when Mr. Edebohls died, and Mr. Lediger became sole proprietor.

Cornelius J. Blauvelt was the first Postmaster of Blauvelt, or Blauveltville, as it was called for some years afterward. The post office was established on October 14, 1828. On April 9, 1834, the office was discontinued, but on June 25th of the same year it was re-established, with Cornelius J. Blauvelt in charge. In 1840 Michael Klein was appointed Postmaster and in 1844 he was succeeded by Isaac M. Dederer. Ten years later Simon D. Demarest was given the position. He was followed by John Raab, Henry Edebohls and George M. Lediger, and the present Postmaster is Louis J. Lediger, son of George M. Lediger, appointed in 1891.

The Order of St. Dominic of New York city in December, 1878, purchased from Joseph Eustace thirty acres of land upon which to found a juvenile asylum for the care and education of poor children, intended at first for girls only. Several large buildings were erected thereon and hundreds of children fill them at the present time. In 1880, when the system of sewerage was extremely poor, a severe form of disease of the eyes appeared. Dr. E. L. Oatman, who made his home in Nyack, was employed as physician to the asylum. He attended the children and treated their eyes, and under his direction many sanitary improvements were made, so that the health of the inmates of the institution improved greatly. The first boy was brought to the institution while Dr. Oatman was physician there. The writer of this visited the asylum one Sunday with Dr. Oatman, and he was taken down into the large dining-room while the children were at dinner. Seated at the tables were 350 girls and one boy, who seemed to enjoy the situation.

The Order of St. Dominic extended its work further south, and a few years ago purchased a large piece of property of the Captain Johnson estate, near Sparkill. Here they erected several buildings, of a not very substantial character, and at midnight on August 22nd, 1899, the main building caught fire and was burned to the ground. The fire,

which broke out in one corner of the building, spread rapidly, but all but two of the children were saved by the Sisters, who worked heroically and carried out many of the sleeping or panic-stricken children. In the last year a larger and more substantial brick building has been erected, and a large euchre party took place in New York early this year, under the auspices of the Order of St. Dominic, to help pay the expense. Over \$4,000 was realized from this party.

In 1809 the first school building was erected in Greenbush. In 1850 the building was torn down, and the schoolhouse used at present occupies the same site.

PALISADES.

The pretty region of Palisades village, which has derived a goodly share of admiration because of its scenic beauty, is just now assuming additional importance because of the possibility of its becoming the northern terminus or turning point of the grand Boulevard that is to be constructed along the base of the Palisades, under the direction of the Palisades Commission. Those who founded the little village, formerly known as Sneden's, never dreamed of so important an attraction as a magnificent drive, constructed at the expense of the great States of New York and New Jersey.

There are some handsome residences in and about Palisades, and there is some historic interest attached to that region. There are still traces of the old military road from the ferry through groves of the Palisades to Fort Lee. Washington's spring is situated at the left of the road leading to the boat landing. This spring afforded water for the American forces who were stationed on a knoll to watch the movements of the British fleet, when General Washington expected them on their way to West Point from New York. There is still an old stone house near the village where Washington and Lafayette are said to have dined on one occasion or more during the Revolution. The original building was erected by William Corbett in 1729 or 1730. It caught fire some years afterward and was burned down, but was rebuilt with the original walls still standing.

The original patent for the land in which the village of Palisades is included was granted by the British Government in the reign of King



WILLIAM H. SPRINGSTEEN.

James the Second, dated February, 1685. The area of land in this patent was 3,410 acres, extending from Piermont to Closter. At that time the forest along the Palisades was known as the King's Woods.

The present village is tastefully laid out, having wide avenues, well shaded by large trees. The village has a public park. The name of the place at the river was formerly Sneden's Landing, so called after Lawrence J. Sneden, who died many years ago. A man named Dobbs ran a ferry from this point across the river more than 120 years ago, and from this the village across the river, Dobbs Ferry, ultimately took its name.

ORANGEBURG.

Orangeburg is a small village half way between Sparkill and Blauvelt, on the Piermont Branch of the Erie Railroad, and it is also intersected by the West Shore Railroad, which has a station here. The plant of the Rockland Electric Light and Power Company, of which S. R. Bradley is the principal owner, is located at Orangeburg, and from this point electric light is distributed over one-half of Rockland county and through the upper part of Bergen county, N. J. The only other business carried on here is farming—principally dairy farming.

ORANGEVILLE.

Orangeville is a short distance from Orangeburg, and is a small hamlet, with a number of pleasant dwellings.

PEARL RIVER.

Pearl River, which 18 or 20 years ago was a small hamlet, has since that time grown into an active, bustling village, where considerable business is done. The principal industry is the Dexter Folder Works, which employs several hundred men. Pearl River is also the center of a flower raising district from which thousands of the finest roses seen in the New York market are sent. In the building now occupied by the Dexter Folder Company, J. E. Braunsdorf, when electric lights were first introduced, had associated with him Professor Maxim, the well-known inventor, who gave the first exhibition of electric lighting in Rockland county before a large and interested audience, of whom the writer of this article was one.

NYACK.

The name Nyack is of Indian derivation, and perhaps it is because of that fact that the inhabitants of this beautiful village at the present day have a fondness for the name which they can hardly express. Indian names, in the smallest degree euphonious, possess a charm which more modern titles have not, and the name Nyack will probably designate this region long after, in the distant future, it has become more thickly populated and rejoices in the qualifications and title of a busy, bustling city. That the name Nyack came from a tribe of Indians on Long Island there is no doubt, for the present Gravesend Bay was called Nyack Bay early in the seventeenth century, and it appears from the only records that can be found relating to the subject, that the name of Nyack disappeared entirely from that section and was brought to this village on the Hudson. An old deed undated of 1764 spells the name Niack, and later a "y" was substituted for the "i," and the name since has been Nyack.

Claes Jansen, in 1761, and Harmann Dows—now Tallman— and Tunis Paulsen, previous to 1678, were the earliest patentees of this village, according to the records which still exist. Nyack as a village grew very slowly in its earliest days—in fact, no boom was ever seen here until after the opening of the Nyack and Northern Railroad, in 1870. In 1799 the property lying between the present First avenue on the north and DePew avenue on the south was purchased by Abraham Lydecker for \$84. This property now constitutes in length six of the most valuable blocks in the whole town of Orangetown, and on some parts of that tract the sum of \$4,000 to-day would not pay for a large building lot on Broadway. The records show that at that time the entire district from the Hook Mountain to where the Wayside Chapel now stands was divided into ten farms. These were owned by Michael Cornelison, Sr., Abram Tallman, Tunis Harman Tallman, Garret Sarvent, John VanHouten, Benjamin Knapp, the late Hugh Maxwell—now occupied by the Nyack Country Club—Henry Palmer, Jeremiah Williamson,, Aurey Smith and his brother, John Smith. A gate stood at the end of each farm north of Main street, and the last one was removed from the corner of the present First avenue in 1810, while the last, at the property now owned by James P. McQuaide, remained until

35 or 40 years ago. It was in 1790 when what had previously been a private road between Nyack and Piermont was recognized as a public road, and while along this highway, now famous as the "river road," a few of the original old houses, or parts of them, still stand, numerous handsome residences have been built in later years, affording one of the most beautiful drives along the Hudson river. It is here where the strongest opposition to a trolley road is now found, because, the residents say, "it will spoil this beautiful drive."

Nyack had no direct communication with the inland country until, in 1827, the Nyack turnpike was opened by an act of the Legislature. The steamboat Orange was built at about this same period, and the little village, or more properly, hamlet, began growing, although in 1830, its population, taking in the whole territory now included in the three Nyacks, was only 300—the number of an average at a single church service in Nyack at the present time, when the weather is not stormy.

The first store in Nyack was opened in 1804, by Abram Tallman, on the site of the present Sherman House, a short distance above the Burd street steamboat landing. Tunis Smith, grandson of Lammert Ariansen Smidt, opened the next store, on lower Main street, in 1810, and others followed in after years. In 1833 D. D. Demarest opened a store and lumber yard at the present steamboat dock, and in 1839 he opened the store, now vacant, opposite the Reformed Church. Mr. Demarest, who since that time served several times as County Treasurer of Rockland county, died of apoplexy on April 18th of the present year, in his 89th year.

Nyack has probably had a more varied experience in the way of incorporation than any other village along the Hudson river, if not in New York State. In the year 1870 a public meeting of the citizens was called to vote upon a proposition to incorporate into a village, the boundaries of which would extend from the Hook Mountain on the north to the "Bight," covering a tract three miles in length. This proposition was defeated by a large majority. Shortly afterward the Village of Upper Nyack was incorporated, extending from the beginning of the Clarkstown road on the south to the Hook Mountain. This cut off about one-half of the area included in the first Nyack incorporation proposition which was defeated. In 1872 Nyack was incorporated without this upper half, with the following citizens as its first officers: President,

Daniel D. Demarest; Trustees, Isaac Vervalen, David S. Crane and Charles E. Hunter; Treasurer, William B. Collins; Clerk, William T. B. Storms; Collector, Isaac W. Canfield. The Messrs. Vervalen, Crane, Collins, Canfield and Storms are now dead.

Trouble some time afterward arose because of differences among the taxpayers, arising from the fact that the largest expenditure of money from taxes was in the upper part of the village and in the business section, while the people in the lower section—now South Nyack—complained that their part of the corporation did not receive the attention to which it was entitled, by virtue of the taxes paid in that portion of the village. In 1875 some of the largest taxpayers, including Commodore William Voorhis, Cornelius T. Smith, Azariah Ross, Tunis DePew and others, started a movement to break up the corporation. In response to a mandamus from the Supreme Court, a meeting of citizens was called to vote on the question whether the incorporation of the village should continue, but as the vote was about to begin, the proceeding was stopped by an injunction served on the Trustees. Finally, however, after two years of litigation and trouble which engendered much hard feeling and frequent hard words, a meeting was held in 1876, when the incorporation was voted down by a large majority—about four to one.

The people of South Nyack, on May 25th, 1878, by a vote which was almost unanimous, decided to incorporate by themselves the district from Cedar Hill avenue on the north to the southerly boundary line of C. T. Smith's property, and west by the old Nyack Patent line, taking in an area of nearly one square mile. At the first election, June 22, 1878, the following officers were chosen: President, Garret Van Nostrand; Trustees, John G. Perry, Richard J. Lyeth and Grenville D. Wilson; Treasurer, William C. Moore; Collector, Tunis D. Seaman; Clerk, Charles H. Meeker. Of these gentlemen Messrs. Seaman and Meeker are the only ones now living. The present officers of South Nyack are: President, Howard VanBuren; Trustees, Valentine Mott, D. D. Sherman, John Rooney; Treasurer, C. A. Chapman; Collector, Howard R. Browne; Clerk, Joseph T. Kelly; Police Justice, William V. McKimm.

The incorporation of South Nyack left Nyack alone, between the upper and lower villages, an unincorporated section, and on February 27, 1883, this village was incorporated, its first officers under the new incorporation being: President, William DeGroat; Trustees, John A.



JOHN D. BLAUVELT.

Burke, Edwin B. Sippell and George F. Morse; Treasurer, Nicholas C. Blauvelt; Collector, Garret W. Hart; Clerk, Edward C. Cole. The Messrs. DeGroat and Blauvelt have since died, and Edward H. Cole has continued as Village Clerk ever since until April, 1902, an evidence of his efficiency and fitness for the position.

The present officers of Nyack are: President, Abram Myers; Trustees, John H. Post, Howard Garner, Martin Schupner, Cornelius Van Tassell; Collector, Edward Phillips; Treasurer, John M. Gesner; Clerk, James Kilby.

The population of Nyack village by the census of 1900 was 4,275.

GRAND VIEW.

The village of Grand View was incorporated September 15, 1900. The present officers are: President, Joseph R. Ellicott; Trustees, Henry P. Stamford, J. E. Carpenter; Treasurer, John W. Ingram; Collector, Peter McMillan; Clerk, Alfred K. Gavey.

INDUSTRIES OF NYACK.

The manufacture of shoes has since the early years of the nineteenth century been an important industry in Nyack. The first man to embark in the business was William H. Perry, who started a shoe manufactory in 1826. Daniel Burr was the first to follow in this business, and he associated with him Edward and Nathaniel Burr, conducting the business for a few years. Finally the brothers separated, each starting for himself.

Austin & Burr, successors to Edward Burr, started in 1855, and a few months later they took in another partner, James F. Dezendorf, the firm then being Austin, Burr & Co. This company was finally dissolved and George Cooke followed in the business in 1864. The firm of Ketchell, Caywood & Burr was formed in 1857, and after continuing two years, John Burr withdrew and started for himself.

In 1867 Ketchell & Caywood started in the shoe business and erected the large brick building which still stands at the corner of Railroad and DePew avenues. This firm was succeeded by Ketchell & Purdy, who, after doing a prosperous business for a few years failed, and both removed from town.

George T. and C. Morrow after that became the most extensive shoe manufacturers in Nyack, beginning their business in 1876. In 1879 they erected a large brick building at the corner of Cedar Hill and Railroad avenues and conducted a large business for several years, when they failed. Their failure was deeply felt, for they employed a large number of hands and paid good wages. The Morrow factory made a finer grade of goods than some of the smaller establishments.

C. B. Kennedy began the manufacture of shoes in 1875 on Broadway, and in a few years he failed and removed from town. He is at present engaged in business at Peekskill.

Conrad Doersch began the manufacture of shoes in 1878. He carried on business for several years in the building corner of Railroad and DePew avenues and then erected the brick building on Railroad avenue south of Hudson avenue. In 1890 he went into bankruptcy, but his affairs have since been settled, and he is still carrying on the business of manufacturing shoes.

William E. Tuttle & Co. began the manufacture of shoes in a frame building corner of Railroad and Hudson avenues in 1876. A few years later Mr. Tuttle put up a large brick building at the corner of Jackson avenue and North Mill street, where he has since done a prosperous business. In the year 1901 the Tuttle Shoe Company was formed and during the present season the large Morrow factory has, through the efforts of the Nyack Board of Trade, been leased for five years, and has been put in condition to carry on the manufacture of shoes more extensively than it has been done in years. Morse & Rogers, the well known shoe dealers of New York, are interested in this company.

Charles Theis began the manufacture of shoes in the Ernst block, corner of Main and Franklin streets, in 1879. He afterward erected a large brick building at the foot of Burd street, near the steamboat landing, and after continuing business there for a few years, he failed and went to Florida to live. Three years ago he and his family returned and they now have a shoe store on Broadway, under the firm name of O. F. Theis & Co.

Jacob Scott carried on the shoe manufacturing business for a few years, starting on Main street, in 1879.

The largest shoe factory building that Nyack has ever had was that which Andrew H. Jackman erected on Cedar Hill avenue, corner of Railroad avenue. Mr. Jackman started in business here in 1876 and for several years employed a large number of hands, both men and women. During the latter years of his business here there were several extensive strikes among his employes, and he finally resolved to leave town, which he did, and then went to Poughkeepsie. His large factory building has since that time been occupied by various industries. Three years ago A. W. Sexsmith & Co., of New York, manufacturers of cabinet work, leased the two first floors of the building and did a good business for several months, when they were obliged, through lack of capital, it was said, to give up. Percy Moore occupied the upper part of the building in the manufacture of shirt waists, but went to New York a couple of years ago. Mr. Moore had carried on his business in other buildings in Nyack for several years before, and the cause of his leaving was said to be his inability to get a sufficient number of girls here to do his work.

In 1900 the Peerless Finishing Company came to Nyack in a very quiet manner, to carry on their business of dyeing and finishing silk goods for millinery trimmings. They leased the old DePew brick building, familiarly known as the shoddy mill, and started in their business with some forty or fifty hands, men and women. The same year they found it necessary to erect a frame building, 150 feet long, on the premises. Early in 1901 they purchased of the Nyack National Bank the large Jackman building, on Cedar Hill avenue, and shortly afterward they bought the brick building on Railroad avenue occupied for years by E. L. Wright & Co., manufacturers of sleighs and carriages. The Peerless Company have put both buildings in good condition for their business and in addition they have erected another building on their property. They have the most costly machinery in Nyack, are doing an extensive business and it is believed they will in the near future add more property to their present possessions. The company have plenty of capital and pay their way.

Boat building was, in past years, an important industry in Nyack. James E. Smith opened his shipyard, foot of Fourth avenue, in 1867, and conducted it for years, building many boats, a number of them well-known. Upon Mr. Smith's death his business was continued by his son, John P. Smith. The latter was compelled by circumstances to go into

bankruptcy a couple of years ago. He has since received his discharge, and last winter a company was formed, with a capital stated to be \$100,000, to carry on the boat manufacturing business under the firm name of the John P. Smith Company.

William Dickey carried on the boat building business in Nyack for years. In 1863 he built two steamboats for the Camden & Amboy Railroad Company, and in 1865-6 he built the steamer *Chrystenah*, now owned by the North River Steamboat Company and still running on her route between Peekskill, New York, Haverstraw, Nyack, Tarrytown and Yonkers in the Spring, Summer and Autumn. William Dickey's son, the Hon. George Dickey, is now Rockland county's Assemblyman at Albany.

The piano manufacturing business was once quite an industry in Nyack, starting back in 1832, when John Tallman had the first factory. Others who afterward engaged in the business were Thompson & Ross, in 1850, and, later, Sumner Sturtevant. The factory building occupied by the above manufacturers, corner of Broadway and Third avenue, is now owned by Francis J. N. Tallman, who deals in pianos and manufactures pipe organs. Mr. Tallman has, in the last five or six years, made organs for churches in different parts of this State and in other States, some of them far distant. M. A. Clark, formerly in the employ of Mr. Tallman, recently began the manufacture of organs in his own name, his factory being situated on the top of the South Mountain. Mr. Clark recently finished a large pipe organ—the largest in Rockland county—for the new Nyack Reformed Church, and it was placed in the church last March.

Among some of the early industries of Nyack were included Copleston's and Puff's straw hat factories, both of which went out of existence several years ago. Puff's was opened in 1880 and Copleston's in 1881. In the '50's and for a number of years later Henry and Abram Storms successfully carried on the manufacture of woodenware and gave employment to a large number of men. In 1850 William Crumbie & Sons started the Nyack Foundry, which, in 1863, was purchased by Thomas Magee, who carried on the business for more than twenty years. Since that time John Kane has for several years carried on a successful business in the same line and is located on lower Burd street, near the steamboat landing.

Aaron L. Christie established the carriage and wagon making business in Nyack in 1835 and conducted it successfully until he gave it up in 1871, when he was succeeded by the present well-known firm of A. E. & J. H. Christie, who still carry on the business in their large establishment on Liberty street, from Church street to Jackson avenue. Aaron Taylor and E. L. Wright also carried on the carriage and sleigh business here for years, but the Messrs. Christie are now the only manufacturers in Nyack in that line.

One of the most important industries of Nyack in recent years was the boat building business of Charles L. Seabury & Company, at the foot of Main street, which had a prosperous existence here for about eight years, and then became consolidated with another and larger industry in the same line and removed to Morris Heights, N. Y. Seabury & Co. came to Nyack in 1889 and erected the building at the extreme foot of Main street, on the north side, extending to the water. Building steam yachts and launches was the business of this firm, and their business rapidly increased and their quarters were extended. They purchased the old Canfield place, west of their works, and erected a large building for their machine shop and office. They also occupied the large building at the foot of the street on the south side, and their works was among the busiest places along the Hudson river. While here they turned out many fine boats and earned a wide reputation. In the year 1897 the Gas Engine and Power Company, of New York city, with which Mr. Seabury had been intimately associated for years, urgently requested the Seabury Company to consolidate with them in their yards at Morris Heights, New York. Mr. Seabury, after considering the matter carefully and concluding that it would be well for him to go where he could have deeper water and build larger craft than his place here would accommodate, decided to go, and during the Fall of 1897 the company removed all their machinery, stock, etc., to Morris Heights, where the consolidated companies have since been engaged a large part of the time in making torpedo boats and other craft for the U. S. Government. As the company's pay roll in Nyack amounted to from \$1,000 to \$1,200 weekly, the loss caused by the company's removal was felt in the village.

Two other industries, which have located here within the last year, now occupy a part of the Seabury property. One of these is the Carbo-

Mangen Company, which manufactures a material for tempering metals in a superior manner, and the other is the Church Motor and Launch Company.

C. W. Strong came to Nyack in 1896 and began the manufacture of paper boxes. In 1900 he purchased land and erected a large factory at the corner of Washington and Burd streets, where he now carries on an extensive business and employs a large number of girls.

Richard E. King, who has carried on the manufacture of shoes in Nyack for several years, purchased a building on Jackson avenue and Washington street in September, 1899, and built an extension upon it which made it of sufficient size for his business, which is now very extensive and one of Nyack's most important industries.

The Nyack Knitting Company began the manufacture of knitted goods in Nyack in 1899, and now have a large and successful establishment in the Ernst building.

The Doetschmann Manufacturing Company, perfumery makers, established their business on Railroad avenue in 1900.

THE NYACK BOARD OF TRADE.

The Nyack Board of Trade, an organization formed for the purpose of aiding the financial interests of the town, was organized at a meeting held at the office of Judge A. S. Tompkins, on the evening of June 23, 1896. Judge Tompkins was chosen Chairman, and Tunis S. Dutcher was Secretary. The necessary preliminary business was transacted, and temporary officers were elected to serve until the annual election in October. Two or three meetings were held during the Summer and several propositions were received from out-of-town firms which desired to locate in Nyack, but none of them were accepted. The first regular officers were elected on the evening of Oct. 13, 1896, as follows:

President—J. W. Callahan.

Vice-President—J. C. Gregory.

Treasurer—William J. Randolph.

Secretary—Tunis S. Dutcher.

Directors—R. H. M. Dickinson, A. M. Voorhis, J. W. Dalley, C. E. Smith, John D. Blauvelt, T. F. Odell, E. Oppenheimer, M. W. DeBaum, A. S. Tompkins, M. Sayres, Charles A. Morrell.

The object of the Board of Trade, as stated in its by-laws, is to "advance the interests of Nyack, to build up its trade, increase its attractions



WILLIAM J. RANDOLPH.

and the value of its property, promote the establishment of manufactories within its boundaries, or its vicinity, and to induce strangers to make it their homes." The organization, at the expense of hundreds of dollars, has worked hard to carry out the object as stated, and has succeeded in a large degree. In a very few instances industries which were brought to Nyack by the Board of Trade have not remained, because of circumstances which the Board could not control; but through the work of the organization many thousands of dollars have been brought to the town and circulated through the channels of business.

One of the principal industries established here the first of January, 1897, was the Nuttall Manufacturing Company, makers of bicycles. A large business was carried on by this firm until the Fall of 1900, when the manufactory was absorbed by the Bicycle Trust, and the establishment here closed. During the early part of the present year, 1902, the Morrow factory building, formerly occupied by the Nuttall Company, was leased, through the Board of Trade, to the Tuttle Shoe Company, for a large extension of the shoe manufacturing business of that company, the Board raising the sum of \$2,706 toward fitting up the building.

The Board of Trade was instrumental in bringing the A. W. Sexsmith cabinet making firm to Nyack, but that company did not remain. The Nyack Knitting Company, which now does a handsome business, was also brought here by the Board of Trade, and several local manufacturers have also been assisted by the organization which still continues its good work.

The present officers and Directors of the Board of Trade are:

President—John D. Blauvelt.

Vice-President—Charles A. Morrell.

Treasurer—Isaac Neisner.

Secretary—Alfred Themans.

Directors—M. W. DeBaun, J. D. Blauvelt, T. F. Odell, George B. Helmle, A. S. Tompkins, W. H. White, C. A. Morrell, A. M. Voorhuis, J. W. Dalley, Victor Ackerman.

THE NYACK POST-OFFICE.

With the present up-to-date system of handling and delivering the mail of the Nyack Post-office, it seems hard to realize that Nyack's first

mail, in more primitive days, was kept in a cigar box, and persons inquiring after letters were handed the box and permitted to do their own sorting, but such was the case. John Van Houten was the first Postmaster, and in 1835 he opened the first Post-office in his store at the landing at Upper Nyack. As the mails were brought to and taken from this place by steamboats, there were not many "rush hours" during each day in this branch of Uncle Sam's mail service. Samuel Canfield, who kept the Dry Dock Hotel, corner of Main and Canfield (now Gedney) streets, was appointed in 1836, and established the office at his place of business above named. Charles Humphrey was the next Postmaster, in 1844, and he was succeeded by William B. Collins from 1849 to 1853. Daniel D. Demarest was Postmaster from 1853 to 1861, and his office was at the corner of Broadway and Burd street, in the store owned by him.

President Lincoln, in 1861, appointed Aaron L. Christie Postmaster, and, the Republican administration continuing, Mr. Christie held the position until his death, in July, 1880. His daughter, Sarah L. Christie, being familiar with the Post-office work, was then appointed and kept the position until Orlando Humphrey was appointed by President Cleveland, in July, 1885. After President Harrison was elected, Miss Christie was again appointed. When Cleveland was elected the second time, he appointed Philip Doersch Postmaster.

George B. Helmle, the present Postmaster, was appointed by President McKinley on January 13, 1899, and he began work at once to establish free delivery, which had been talked of for several months. The village was found to have the necessary qualifications for free delivery, and the service began on May 1st, 1899. Postmaster Helmle had the office thoroughly refitted, at considerable expense, with the very latest fixtures and appliances, and the free delivery service proved very successful and satisfactory. The Upper Nyack Post-office was abolished and free delivery was extended to the Hook. On July 14, 1901, free delivery was extended to Grand View, and the Post-office there, which had been under the charge of the late William H. Platt, Postmaster, for over twenty years, was abolished. There are now six carriers. The receipts of the Nyack Post-office at this time average more than \$15,000 per year. It is the only Post-office in the county that is entitled to and has free delivery, and on July 1st free delivery was extended to Central Nyack.

NYACK EXTENSIVELY ORGANIZED.

Nyack has a large number of societies, secret and otherwise. Almost, if not quite, everyone in the town belongs to some organization. The oldest of these is Oneko Lodge, No. 122, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, which was organized March 28, 1848. In 1867 Rockland Encampment, a higher branch of the order, was organized, and in 1869 Ruth Lodge, Rebekah Degree, was instituted.

Rockland Lodge, No. 723, F. & A. M., was organized on July 16, 1872. Rockland Chapter, No. 204, R. A. M., was organized in April, 1867.

Following is a complete list of secret societies in Nyack, with the names of the head officer and secretary of each:

Rockland Lodge, No. 723, F. & A. M.—J. DuPratt White, Master; E. S. Baldwin, Secretary.

Rockland Chapter, No. 204, R. A. M.—E. H. Cole, H. P.; A. E. Christie, Secretary.

Oneko Lodge, No. 122, I. O. O. F.—John Dondero, N. G.; Ira Seaman, Secretary.

Rockland Encampment, No. 37, I. O. O. F.—E. S. Hemingway, C. P.; A. G. Garrison, Scribe.

Ruth Rebekah Lodge, No. 4, I. O. O. F.—Mrs. E. Noll, N. G.; Mrs. J. S. Halstead, Secretary.

Grant Lodge, No. 385., K. of P.—G. J. Lawrence, C. C.; H. W. Kirkpatrick, K. of R. and S.

Waldron Post, No. 82, G. A. R.—Henry E. Smith, Commander; J. A. Burke, Adjutant.

Woman's Relief Corps—Mrs. Martha J. Scott, President; Mrs. Mary Sutton, Secretary.

Nyack Tribe, No. 209, I. O. R. M.—C. Boldt, Jr., Sachem; Henry Kirkpatrick, C. of R.

Chaska Council, No. 40, D. of P.—Mrs. M. Lapp, Pocahontas; Mrs. M. J. MacArthur, C. of R.

Tappan Zee Council, No. 225, F. of A.—James Mitchell, C. R.; W. V. Lott, Secretary.

Hudson Forest Circle, No. 428, C. of E.—Mrs. M. Blauvelt, C. C.; Mrs. I. Minford, Secretary.

Nyack Council, No. 248, A. L. of H.—James P. Cooke, Commander; N. M. Kosch, Secretary.

Nyack Council, Royal Arcanum—J. P. Graham, Regent; L. O. Gregory, Secretary.

Carpenters and Joiners' Union, No. 474—George Milton, President; Jerome Hasbrouck, Secretary.

Nyack Lodge, No. 308, D. O. H.—Oswald Luleich, O. B.; Jacob Hauserman, Secretary.

Germania Benevolent Society—A. Ginter, President; August Wesel, Secretary.

NYACK'S MUSICAL ORGANIZATIONS.

The spirit of organization which has been manifested in so many different forms in Nyack has during the last forty years pervaded the musical circles of the place. The first musical societies formed in Nyack were organized during the early days of the Civil War. John V. Burr formed a club for the singing of patriotic music, including all the best known musicians of the neighborhood. Within the first year of the organization there was a division and a new society was formed, called the Excelsior Glee Club, under the leadership of Aaron R. Wheeler. Both societies prospered and continued during the war.

No permanent musical organization was formed here after that time until 1880, when the Nyack Choral Society was organized and had an existence of eighteen years, winning fame as one of the leading musical societies along the Hudson river. The following officers were elected at its formation: President, William C. Moore; Vice President, Quentin McAdam; Secretary and Treasurer, William F. McCorkle; Conductor, Grenville D. Wilson; Directors, Mrs. G. S. Mann, Mrs. J. O. Polhemus, John A. Burke, James B. Simonson and George O. Martine. Officers were elected every year after that, ending with 1897, when, on September 20th of that year, Prof. Wilson, the conductor, died suddenly, after nearly eighteen years of devoted service in advancing the cause of music in Rockland county. In 1871 seventy members of the Nyack Choral Society assisted Dr. Damrosch in giving his great May Music Festival in the new Seventh Regiment armory, New York city. The Nyack Philharmonic Society was organized by Prof. Wilson in connection with the Choral Society, but lived only a few years.



A. THEMANS.

In 1900 the Nyack Musical Society was organized, with Henry P. Noll as conductor, and the following officers: President, George E. Baldwin; Vice President, George V. H. Blauvelt; Secretary, Jacob Bollinger, Jr.; Treasurer, George B. Helmle; Librarian, G. Edwin Gregory, W. W. Schupner; Directors, G. E. Baldwin, G. B. Helmle, G. E. Gregory, G. V. H. Blauvelt, Jacob Bollinger, Jr., Lincoln J. Stewart, Harry W. Dippel, Miss Adele Guerber, Miss May S. Blauvelt, Mrs. Milton Sayres. This society has given four concerts since its organization.

The Nyack Cornet Band was organized by Frederick Noll, the leader, in November, 1879. The band is still in existence, with Alphonse Bombard as leader. There are two other musical organizations in town, the Nyack Orchestra, under the direction of Miss Mabel Babcock, and the orchestra of the Young Men's Christian Association.

NYACK'S THREE BANKS.

The present Nyack National Bank, which has had a prosperous career of twenty-four years last March, is the third banking institution in the history of this town. The first was the Rockland County Bank, which was opened in the building which still stands on the southeast corner of Burd street and Piermont avenue (then Court street), on June 23, 1860. It became a National Bank in 1863, and a few years later removed to the Commercial building, in the quarters now occupied by the Nyack National Bank. In 1878 the old bank was obliged to go into liquidation because of the failure of the North River and New York Steamboat Company, whose paper it held for many thousands of dollars. The closing of the bank caused a sensation all through Rockland county, for people in nearly every village in the county were interested. David J. Blauvelt was President and A. D. Morford was cashier. A meeting of the stockholders was called and held in the rooms now occupied by Waldron Post, G. A. R., on the second floor of the Commercial building, and a stormy time ensued. The writer of this article was present at that meeting and well remembers some of the bitter words spoken. President Blauvelt urged that the bank be allowed to resume business with capital reduced one-half. This was opposed. A settle-

ment of the bank's affairs was finally permitted, and the depositors received, in several dividends, the greater part of their deposits, but the stockholders lost heavily.

The present Nyack National Bank was incorporated in March, 1878, with a capital of \$50,000. The first directors and officers were: William C. Moore, President; Charles A. Chapman, Cashier; S. R. Bradley, Rudolph Lexow, J. H. Weddle, Quentin McAdam, William Voorhis, George C. Stephens and Peter K. Knapp, Directors. This bank has always been free from even a suspicion of weakness and occupies a position of honor and strength among the best banking institutions in the State. Its present officers and directors are: President, Charles A. Chapman; Cashier, John M. Gesner; C. A. Chapman, S. R. Bradley, George C. Stephens, Rudolph Lexow, A. M. Voorhis, S. R. Bradley, Jr., and J. M. Gesner, Directors.

The Rockland County Savings Bank, located in Nyack, was incorporated April 14, 1871. In the summer of 1887 it became insolvent with a loss of \$38,000. William J. Green was appointed Receiver, and through his attorney, Gen. Robert Avery, Samuel W. Canfield, President, and Richard P. Eells, Secretary and Treasurer, were indicted by the Rockland County Grand Jury. The legal proceedings occupied several months before they were ended, and, finally, on trial in the Rockland Supreme Court, both men were acquitted, their defense being that the bank's failure was caused by several poor investments of the money, for which they were not to blame.

THE NYACK HOSPITAL.

The Nyack Hospital grew out of the need of such a useful institution which had been felt long before the project was undertaken or took definite shape. The necessity of conveying persons from this place or vicinity to New York city for surgical operations or any hospital treatment was so firmly realized that a number of public-spirited citizens met together in 1894 and seriously considered the advisability of making an effort to establish hospital facilities here for the use of this community, or, indeed, for the use of patients from any other part of Rockland county. There had been some talk among other philanthropic people of the town of founding a small hospital in some house already standing, for the relief of the sick and injured, but it was deemed wise to consider

the formation of a stronger organization and the erection of a substantial permanent building which would become a first-class hospital in every respect. This project was carried out, and the Nyack Hospital of to-day occupies a proud and honored position among similar institutions in the Hudson river cities and towns.

It was resolved to incorporate under the Hospital law of the State, and to found an institution whose beginnings should be so planned as to assure the future success of the hospital work here. A certificate of incorporation was executed December 22, 1894, with the following incorporators: Arthur S. Tompkins, Dr. George A. Mursick, Charles A. Chapman, Augustus M. Voorhis, Stephen R. Bradley, William Dewey, George M. Hard, Clarence Lexow, John G. Dorrance, Dr. J. O. Polhemus, M. Watson DeBaun, Enoch C. Bell, Albert E. Duryea, Dr. Edward S. Oatman, Dr. Gerrit F. Blauvelt, Howard VanBuren, Dr. Edward H. Maynard, Dr. Charles D. Kline, William B. Conrad and Gilbert H. Crawford.

This certificate of incorporation was approved by the State Board of Charities on June 10, 1895, and was further approved for filing June 17, 1895, by Judge Brown, of the Supreme Court. This made the incorporation complete. The first regular meeting took place on July 11th, the same year, when officers and a Board of Managers were elected. A set of by-laws, carefully formulated, was adopted. The first officers and Board of Managers were as follows:

President—Stephen R. Bradley.

Vice President—George M. Hard.

Treasurer—Enoch C. Bell.

Secretary—Howard VanBuren.

Board of Managers—The above officers and Dr. J. O. Polhemus, Dr. E. S. Oatman, Mr. C. A. Chapman, Dr. C. D. Kline, Mr. W. B. Conrad, Mr. G. H. Crawford, Dr. E. H. Maynard, Mr. M. W. DeBaun, Dr. G. F. Blauvelt, Mr. A. E. Duryea, Mr. A. M. Voorhis.

A committee was appointed to look up a site for the hospital—one which would be adequate for the needs of the institution for years to come. Several plots of lands were examined, but none appeared so suitable for the purposes of a hospital as the one finally selected on Midland avenue and owned by the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York. This site was purchased from the above company in December,

1895, for \$3,000. It consisted of three acres of ground, well shaded by large trees on every part, and accessible to all. The incorporators, to testify their deep interest in the project, subscribed, with a few others interested, the sum of \$1,350 as part payment and for incidental expenses.

In the summer of 1896 Mr. Marshall B. Emery, the architect, prepared drawings and a plan for the hospital, and these were adopted. In September, 1897, a Kirmess, under the direction of Miss Lila Agnew Stewart, was held for five days, and the sum of \$2,900 was netted. The mortgage of \$2,000 on the hospital property was paid off: With a balance of \$1,000 in the treasury the managers concluded to build at once. The sum of \$7,000 was borrowed on bond and mortgage, and in the fall of 1898 the work of construction was commenced.

In the summer of 1899 another Kirmess was held and a larger sum than before was realized. The building was completed and on the first day of January, 1900, the hospital was opened for the reception of patients. The first one to be received was Mr. David J. Blauvelt, a prominent and wealthy citizen, who had been waiting for some time to have an operation performed. This was done successfully, and during the two and a quarter years which have elapsed since a large amount of skillful work has been performed by the hospital staff of physicians and surgeons.

In the summer of 1901 a Venetian Carnival was held by Miss Stewart, realizing a large sum for the hospital. In addition \$3,000 has since been subscribed toward the addition of a ward to the present buildings, which will cost about \$5,000. The present structure is the Administration building, and is only a part of the plan of the complete hospital system. At times it is filled and many patients who want to enter are obliged to wait for others to leave. Besides the pay patients who are able to remunerate the hospital for its services, a large percentage have been treated free.

Miss Montfort, a trained nurse of thorough experience and remarkably good judgment, is the superintendent in charge, and she is assisted by a corps of four nurses. The Hospital Staff consists of Drs. G. F. Blauvelt, C. D. Kline, E. H. Maynard, S. W. S. Toms, J. O. Polhemus and George A. Leitner.

Following are the present officers and managers of the hospital:

President—Stephen R. Bradley.

Vice President—W. B. Conrad.

Secretary—Howard VanBuren.

Treasurer—Dr. C. D. Kline.

Board of Managers—Dr. J. O. Polhemus, Dr. E. S. Oatman, Mr. C. A. Chapman, Dr. C. D. Kline, Mr. W. B. Conrad, Mr. S. R. Bradley, Mr. G. H. Crawford, Dr. E. H. Maynard, Mr. M. W. DeBaun, Dr. G. F. Blauvelt, Mr. E. C. Bell, Mr. A. E. Duryea, Mr. G. M. Hard, Mr. A. M. Voorhis, Mr. H. VanBuren.

NYACK GAS COMPANY.

The Nyack Gaslight and Fuel Company has grown to its present large dimensions from the Nyack and Warren Gaslight Company, which it succeeds. The latter company was incorporated in November, 1859. The gas works were built on what is now known as Gedney street, where the present plant is located. After a few years under the management of the old company, William Voorhis came in charge of the works and became President. In 1893 the Nyack Gaslight and Fuel Company was incorporated and the officers were: A. M. Voorhis, President; William S. Voorhis, Vice President; Frederick Perry, Secretary. In 1894 the plant was enlarged and improved, and in 1889 a still more extensive change and improvement in the works was made. New methods were introduced and, at great cost, the plant was made one of the latest improved and most complete of any along the Hudson river. The present officers of the company are: President, A. M. Voorhis; Secretary, Frederick Perry; Treasurer, A. M. Voorhis. The office of Vice President has been abolished.

THE NYACK BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATION.

The Nyack Building, Co-Operative Savings and Loan Association was incorporated June 16th, 1888, under and pursuant to an act of the Legislature, known as Chapter 556 of the Laws of the State of New York passed in 1887. The incorporators were: Clarence Lexow, M. Watson DeBaun, Henry DeBaun, Abram G. Garrison, Lawton M. Burdick, August J. Gross, M. George Barrett, J. W. Graham, George Gates,

Adam C. Haeselbarth, J. Eekerson Demarest, Robert Halliday, Boltus M. Brush, Millard F. Onderdonk, Alonzo Corsa, A. A. Blackledge, Arthur S. Tompkins, Richard T. Lyeth. The first officers and directors were:

President, Clarence Lexow; Vice President, John A. Demarest; Secretary, Alonzo Corsa; Treasurer, John M. Gesner; Directors, W. T. B. Storms, C. E. Smith, A. A. Blackledge, H. T. Gesner, P. P. Waring, Charles Haring, J. E. Demarest, R. J. Lyeth, Conrad Doersch.

The Association has had a prosperous career and aided, through loans, in erecting many new buildings and improving others. The shares in the first four series have matured and been paid off, and the fifth will be paid off at the close of next year.

The present standing of the Association is shown by the following figures from the last annual report issued December 18, 1901:

Resources, bonds and mortgages, \$198,250.00; share loans, \$3,560.00; total of these two items, \$201,810.00. Other items bring the total resources up to \$237,692.39.

Liabilities—Due to members' shares in June, \$184,904.00; declared profits, \$47,353.61; due on incomplete loans, \$500.00; maturity certificates outstanding, \$4,300.00; undivided profits, \$15.39; suspense, \$619.39. Total, \$237,692.39.

The present officers are:

President—Clarence Lexow.

Vice President—Peter P. Waring.

Secretary—G. Edwin Gregory.

Treasurer—Edwin R. Smith.

Attorney—Irving Hopper.

The Association's present headquarters are in the Voorhis block, No. 4 North Broadway.

ELECTRICITY IN NYACK.

Electric light was introduced in Nyack fifteen years ago. In 1887 the Nyack Electric Light Company was formed, with the following officers: President, Clarence Lexow; Vice President, Gen. James H. Blauvelt; Secretary, Harrie G. Newton; Treasurer, Charles A. Chapman. A power house was built in Jackson avenue, and after the wires were put up and the plant was in working order, the turning on of the



JOHN F. MCFARLANE.

electric light was celebrated by a parade in which the firemen and other citizens took part. In 1890 the company added the incandescence system to the arc lights which they had furnished exclusively up to that time. The patronage of the company increased, and after a short time contracts were made with all the Nyack villages for street lighting by electricity. This light has been used in the villages ever since.

In 1900 the Electric Light Company sold out to the present Rockland Light and Power Company, which now carries on the business with greatly increased facilities. S. R. Bradley is the President of the company and practically the owner of the plant. His son, S. R. Bradley, Jr., is Vice President and George L. Chapman, his son-in-law, is Secretary and Treasurer. The present plant is an almost entirely new one. New poles were erected, new wires were strung, and the power house was established at Orangeburg in one of several buildings there owned by Mr. Bradley. The entire system here is complete in details and the plant now furnishes electric light and power for a great part of Rockland county, besides having its lines extended into Upper New Jersey. The company's general office is in Moeller block, Broadway, Nyack.

THE NYACK FREE LIBRARY.

The Nyack Free Library, which is to have its home in a handsome \$15,000 building, paid for by Mr. Andrew Carnegie this year, had its birth in 1879, when it was founded as a subscription library, with Mr. S. R. Bradley, President; Mr. Quentin McAdam, Vice President, and Mr. John H. Tingley, Secretary. In 1890 the institution was regularly chartered and in 1894 it was made a free library. For a few years past it has received an annual appropriation from each of the three Nyack corporations towards its support.

Early in 1901 a committee of the Directors of the Library made application to Mr. Andrew Carnegie, the well known multi-millionaire and financier, to furnish \$15,000 with which to provide a substantial up-to-date Library building in Nyack. The application was made just previous to Mr. Carnegie's sailing for Europe, so it was several months before his decision in the matter could be known, although his private secretary gave the committee words of encouragement. A few days before Christmas of that year word was received from Mr. Carnegie

that he would donate \$15,000 for a free Library building in Nyack if the village would guarantee the sum of \$1,500 a year for its support. At the first meetings of the three Village Boards after that each one decided to increase the appropriation which it was already giving to the sum needed, so that the full amount of \$1,500 is now guaranteed. Mr. Carnegie, when informed of this, accepted the conditions and said he would pay the money as it was required for the construction of the building.

The Library had for some time owned a lot on lower Broadway, between the Journal office and Dr. Maynard's residence, but there was a strong sentiment in favor of locating the building on a more conspicuous site farther north. After due consideration the Library Trustees issued a call through the village papers for subscriptions toward the sum of \$4,000 to purchase the DePew lot, on Broadway, where an old barn had stood for three generations, that amount to be given in part payment along with the lower lot already owned by the Library. The subscriptions came in slowly at first, then there was a spurt one day when the amount ran up to \$1,020.00. After this other sums were added nearly every day, and the whole sum was raised.

The present officers of the Library are: Howard Van Buren, President; Capt. Joel Wilson, Vice President; Eugene F. Perry, Secretary and Treasurer; Directors, G. T. Morrow, George O. Martine, J. C. Gregory, Gerrit Smith, Dr. E. H. Maynard, Edward H. Cole, A. M. Voorhis, Frank R. Crumie.

THE NYACK SCHOOLS.

Perhaps there is no direction in which Nyack has advanced more steadily than in the way of educational institutions, there being in the village to-day a Union and High School and three military academics, besides a parochial school connected with St. Ann's R. C. Church.

It was some time before 1800 when the first school building was put up in Nyack. It was located in Main street, and the first teacher was a man named Davenport. In 1806 a new school building was erected on Broadway, where the post office now stands. The building was two stories high and the school is said to have been well attended considering the sparse population. In 1827 this building burned down, but was afterward rebuilt. In 1837 a school building was erected on the pres-

ent site. In 1851 a new and larger building was put up, with Archibald Stewart as teacher. With an increasing population in the village, the school attendance also increased and in 1867 it was found necessary to build a large addition to the edifice. In 1884 the building was again enlarged by the addition of a new front, and in 1892 it was still further enlarged on each side, when fire-proof stairways of iron and stone were put in and other material improvements were made.

The first Regents' examination in this school took place on November 25, 1890, and on December 10th, 1890, the school was officially admitted as a Regents' school. It was also made a superintendent's school at the same time. Prof. Ira H. Lawton came to the school as superintendent in the fall of 1890 and at once began good work which has resulted in winning from the State Department of Public Instruction well deserved praise for the school as being one of the best in the State. It has three departments—Primary, Grammar and High School—and now employs 27 teachers, besides the superintendent. The attendance registration of the school is about 1,200. The present Board of Education consists of James H. Christie, President; Francis J. N. Tallman, Secretary; Dr. E. H. Maynard, Peter E. Remsen and Howard M. Storms.

The Rockland Female Institute was opened in what is now in South Nyack, August 28, 1850, under Rev. B. Van Zandt. In 1858 L. De los Mansfield took charge and conducted it successfully some years, when it was finally closed.

Christopher Rutherford built and opened the Nyack Military Academy in 1859. In 1870 he died and the school closed. In 1876 William H. Bannister, A. M., opened the school and in 1878 it was incorporated under the Regents of the State as Rockland College and had a successful career for sixteen years, when it closed.

In the fall of 1895 Capt. Joel Wilson, who had conducted a successful military school at Newton, N. J., leased the Rockland College building and opened a military school here which he afterward named the Hudson River Military Academy. The school prospered and was conducted at the above place for four years, when Capt. Wilson leased the handsome Tappan Zee Hotel property at South Nyack and removed his school there, where it has continued its prosperous career ever since.

This school has a summer camp at Rye Beach, and during the Exposition at Buffalo it sent a battery there, where it was encamped for two weeks, winning the approval of thousands who saw the young cadets drill and go through their difficult maneuvers.

On September 15, 1890, Prof Elmer E. French came to Nyack and opened the Rockland Military Academy, which he still conducts successfully. He has a large and prosperous school.

Prof. E. Stanton Field, in September, 1901, opened the Nyack Military Academy on what is known as the Hart property, north of the Baptist Church, and has an excellent growing school.

There have been many private schools in Nyack during years past.

NYACK'S SEWER SYSTEM.

In the spring of 1893, recognizing that one of Nyack's needs in the near future, with an increasing population, would be a complete sewer system, which would protect the health of the people and prove a convenience to them as well, the Village Board, by the power vested in them by law, appointed a Board of Sewer Commissioners, consisting of Cornelius DeBaun, M. Watson DeBaun, Dr. E. H. Maynard, Edwin B. Sipple and Charles Theis. This Board engaged James S. Haring, a civil engineer, to prepare a map, plans, etc., to be submitted to the State Board of Health. Mr. Haring preceeded to do this work and in March, 1894, his map and plans were submitted to the Board of Commissioners and then to the State Board of Health, by whom they were approved in May, 1894. To present the matter to the people of the village a special election to vote on the question of having a sewer system was called and it was held on September 18, 1894, when the people voted it down.

The matter was then allowed to rest for several months and another election was called for October 8, 1895. The people had evidently thought the matter over more carefully, and at this election the proposition was carried. The Sewer Commissioners were authorized to issue bonds in a sum not exceeding \$65,000 to pay for a sewer system in the village. In February, 1896, bids were received from several contractors, and the contract was awarded to the Manhattan Supply Company, of New York city, for the sum of \$40,000. In May bonds of \$50,000 were issued. The Manhattan Supply Company had a remarkably fine and dry season for their work, which was finished in December of that year—

1896. In January, 1897, they put in a bill to the village of \$42,000, in addition to the contract price, for extra work which they alleged had been done. The village refused to pay the bill and suit was brought by the Manhattan Company in the Supreme Court. The Hon. A. S. Tompkins was retained by the plaintiffs and Lawyer Ralph E. Prime, of Yonkers, was secured to defend the village. When the matter came into court it was seen that it would be impossible to try it before a jury because of the length of time which it would take, and the Court appointed Judge Beattie, of Orange county, Referee, to take testimony in the case. The suit was then begun and the case was not decided until May, 1901, when Judge Beattie gave the plaintiff a judgment for \$8,957.77. This sum included extra work and fifteen per cent of the contract price, amounting to about \$6,000, thus allowing the Manhattan Company less than \$3,000 for extra work and interest. The costs, amounting to \$5,987.28, were afterward taxed to the village, making a total of \$14,945.05, which the village was required to pay. No appeal was taken and about \$7,000 has been paid up to the present time. The sewer system is a good one in every particular.

ORANGETOWN'S TROLLEY SCHEMES.

For the last seven years the eyes of people in every part of Rockland county have been turned to Orangetown, and particularly to Nyack, for a realization of some one of several schemes which were to start a trolley which would traverse a great part of the county. Up to this time, however, this has not been done, although the people are told to hope on, as it is surely coming.

The first trolley project was started here in 1895, when two companies were formed. One of these, composed of local men, was the River and Valley Traction Company, and the other, headed by Poughkeepsie men, was called the Nyack Traction Company. Both failed to accomplish anything and they went out of existence. In 1897 a promoter named Wilgus came here to represent a new Nyack Traction Company, and by earnest work, accompanied by a remarkable degree of tact and strong persuasive powers, spent several weeks in obtaining franchises for a trolley line. His promises were so bright and appeared so reasonable, that he succeeded in securing franchises from Sparkill and Piermont, up the river road to Nyack and Upper Nyack and then

out through the county to West Nyack, Rockland Lake, New City and other points. He obtained the rights of way over a large part of the route, but not the whole of it, and the Nyack Traction Company hired an office in this place, gave out contracts for material for the trolley, and said the road would be built at once. Several loads of rails and ties were brought to Nyack, but suddenly all signs of work ceased, the rails and ties, which had not been paid for, were taken away, and the county appeared to be as far away from having the trolley as ever. The Nyack Traction Company became insolvent, and its franchises were afterwards sold by a receiver to Charles W. Reeve, of New York city, for \$5,550 in cash. This money was applied to the payment of debts of the Nyack Traction Company.

On September 12, 1900, the Rockland County Traction Company was incorporated, with Charles W. Reeve as President, and the franchises of the defunct Nyack Traction Company became this new company's property. After many hard attempts, Mr. Reeve announced during the past winter of 1901-02 that he had secured the necessary financial backing to build the trolley, and through his counsel, the Hon A. S. Tompkins, he made application to the State Board of Railroad Commissioners for a certificate of necessity and convenience, which would enable them to institute condemnation proceedings along the route of the proposed electric road in places where the necessary consents could not be obtained. At a hearing before the Railroad Commissioners on January 22nd, this year, owing to a technical irregularity in the publication of the notice of incorporation, an adjournment for some weeks became necessary. A second hearing took place on February 21, when it was found that Mr. Reeves, when filing the certificate of incorporation of the Traction Company, had failed to put up the 10 per cent of the capital stock in cash as required, and another adjournment became necessary. This invalidated the old incorporation, and it was found that it would be necessary to incorporate again, and to deposit \$30,000 in cash, as 10 per cent. of the \$300,000 capital stock of the company. The company was re-incorporated, another hearing took place before the Railroad Commissioners, and another adjournment was found necessary. Three outside companies have gone over the field, and it looks at this writing as if Nyack might have a trolley.

NYACK WATER WORKS.

The present water system of Nyack, while it has been costly and taken time to establish it, is complete in every detail and affords the people of Nyack, South Nyack and Upper Nyack as pure water as there is in the State, and with a never-failing supply. It is taken from the Hackensack river at West Nyack, passes through substantial filter beds of sand, so that it is thoroughly filtered and purified before it comes over the hills to Nyack.

The first definite move toward establishing this water system was taken on July 15, 1895, when the Nyack Village Board appointed a Board of Water Commissioners consisting of Dr. E. H. Maynard, the Hon. George Dickey and Augustus A. Christie. An election was held on September 3rd, 1895, when a majority of the taxpayers voted to authorize the Commissioners to proceed to provide some system by which to furnish Nyack with a sufficient supply of pure water. An investigation was made in several localities to get water. A well was driven near the river shore at Upper Nyack, and from this came a generous supply of water. It was found by chemical analysis, however, that this water contained a slight trace of salt, and that project was abandoned. The Spring Valley water shed was next inspected, but it was found that it would prove too expensive to bring the water from that distance, and this project was no longer considered.

The only feasible plan that appeared to remain was for the village to acquire the plant of the Nyack Water Works, which had for years been the principal source of Nyack's water supply. These works were originally established by the late Commodore William Voorhis, and after his death they were owned and conducted by members of his family, who comprised the Nyack Water Works Company. In the early years of this company the supply of water was furnished from springs in and near the village, but these proving inadequate, mains were laid on the turnpike to West Nyack, where a pump house was built and the water was pumped from the Hackensack river.

The Board of Water Commissioners opened communication with the Nyack Water Works Company in 1896 for the purpose of acquiring that company's plant by purchase if possible. No agreement could be entered into in regard to price, and it was then decided to institute condemnation proceedings. This was done and Louis J. Lediger, of Blau-

velt; John M. Verdin, of New City, and William McCauley, of Haverstraw, were appointed by the court a commission to take testimony and appraise the value of the water plant. This was done and as a result the company received \$107,000 for their property. It was decided to lay new water pipes in the streets, while the sewer pipes were being put in, so that they could be put in the same ditches. This was done and that part of the new system was completed. In the summer of 1897 bonds to the amount of \$165,000 were issued to pay for the old company's plant and to complete the village's plant at West Nyack. Land was acquired at West Nyack, a large new pump house was built and a system of filtration by filter beds of sand was adopted by the Commissioners and recommended by the best experts in the State. Work on the filter beds proceeded until the money ran out, when an additional appropriation was asked for in 1898. This proposition was voted down, and nothing was done for nearly a year. In 1899 the matter was submitted to the people, and they voted an appropriation to complete the work. The filter beds have proved a gratifying success and the entire plant is now complete and satisfactory.

THE MISSIONARY INSTITUTE.

One of the most important and perhaps most notable institutions established in Nyack within the last five years is the Missionary Institute of the Christian and Missionary Alliance, situated on Nyack Heights. In the year 1896 the Rev. A. B. Simpson, who is at the head of the Alliance, and some of his co-workers, conceived the idea of establishing a Missionary Institute here and of erecting a tabernacle near by for the holding of a yearly convention in the early part of each September. He purchased in all about 70 acres of ground on Nyack Heights, including the handsome and costly residence of the Rev. Ross Taylor, son of Bishop Taylor, of Africa. This residence had burned down a couple of years before and four of the Rev. Ross Taylor's children perished in the flames. With a degree of courage seldom seen Mr. Taylor rebuilt the house and, with the remainder of his family, continued to make his home there. After the property was purchased by the Alliance, however, Mr. Taylor vacated the premises, and the building, handsomely

furnished throughout, has been known as the Berachah Home, in which the sick and afflicted are cared for and where the faith of Divine Healing is practiced.

During the winter and early spring of 1897 the Christian Alliance got out plans for the Missionary Institute, made contracts with builders and in the early part of May of that year the corner-stone was laid with appropriate ceremonies. On this occasion several hundred members of the Christian Alliance came up on a special train from New York city and for the first time climbed up the Heights, to an altitude of 500 feet, to be present at the corner-stone laying. A tabernacle to seat nearly 2,000 people was erected on the premises north of the Institute, and the first convention on Nyack Heights was held for ten days in early September, and on the closing Sunday of that convention a collection of \$16,000 was taken for the cause of missions. After that the Institute was completed and opened in October, 1897, with about 200 students who were studying to become missionaries. The cost of the Institute was some \$40,000. Each year since that time the Institute has been filled with students from October until the following June, and the custom of holding annual conventions is continued. Rev. Dr. Simpson, after the Institute was completed, erected a handsome residence for himself on the hillside, and at the foot of the hill the Alliance Press, a printing establishment which does the extensive work of the Alliance in that line, was erected and stocked, having a value at the present time of not less than \$40,000. Recently the printing plant was removed to New York city. Dr. Simpson has hopes that if the trolley comes to Nyack, he may run a spur up the hill, and that the entire hillside will become dotted with pretty cottages.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

The Young Men's Christian Association was organized in Nyack on December 22, 1888, and the Association is at present in better condition than for some time past. It is non-sectarian, including in its membership men and boys of all denominations and creeds. The Association building, purchased in 1890, is on Main street, half a block west of Broadway, and has undergone extensive improvements in the last

year. It has a reading room, ladies' parlor, public hall, gymnasium, bowling alleys, baths, etc., and an active Ladies' Auxiliary is connected with the organization.

The General Secretaries of the Association since it was instituted have been as follows:

Henry J. Wilkins, from Dec., 1888, to Oct. 1, 1891.

George A. Dugan, from Oct. 1, 1891, to June 1, 1893.

Edward C. Brownell, from August 1, 1893, to August 1, 1896.

Alfred R. Scott, from Sept. 1, 1896, to Oct. 1, 1897.

E. D. Munroe, from Dec., 1897, to June, 1898.

G. H. Hauser, from Sept. 1898, to Jan. 1, 1900.

James E. Canfield, the present efficient General Secretary, came here in May, 1900. A. G. Jillard, from Poughkeepsie, is Assistant General Secretary and Physical Director.

The present officers and Directors of the Association are:

President—Frank R. Crumbie.

Vice President—Gerrit Smith.

Recording Secretary—George V. H. Blauvelt.

Treasurer—James C. Gregory.

Directors—Eugene F. Perry, Victor Ackerman, William Keenholts, A. S. Tompkins, F. J. N. Tallman, John M. Gesner, James C. Gregory, S. M. Wilson, C. W. Fullwood, G. H. Hopper, Gerrit Smith, James VanWeelden, John S. Murray, Truman H. Baldwin, Frank R. Crumbie, T. J. W. Ebersole, G. V. H. Blauvelt.

NYACK FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The history of the Nyack Fire Department dates back to the fall of 1834, when, on October first, the first engine company, Orangetown, No. 1, was formed. A "bucket" engine was purchased and did service for fifty years. It was the only engine in the village and aided in extinguishing a number of destructive fires. In 1884 a "Button" steamer was purchased.

Mazeppa Engine Company, No. 2, was organized on December 27, 1852, and used a then up-to-date hand engine until January, 1884, when the company purchased a "Silsby" steamer.



CORNELIUS AURYANSEN.

Jackson Engine Company, No. 3, was organized May 9, 1867, and reorganized on May 2, 1882. Some time later this company also purchased a steamer, making three in the village.

Chelsea Hook and Ladder Company, No. 2, was organized in 1891.

Jackson Hose Company, No. 3, was organized in September, 1880.

Highland Hose Company was organized in the fall of 1895.

All of these companies are well equipped with modern apparatus, but since Nyack has had its present water system the steamers are not needed, as the water pressure is sufficient to throw a stream over the highest building in Nyack at any time during the day or night.

The officers of the Nyack Fire Department are:

Chief—George Milton.

First Assistant—Frank Wanamaker.

Second Assistant—Matthew Evers, Jr.

PIERMONT.

The Village of Piermont, whose industrial interests to-day look brighter than they have for many years, has an interesting though varied history with which most of the residents there are unfamiliar. Piermont has always had among its population a goodly number of Rockland county's most substantial citizens, who, ever amid the village's most trying times, in a business sense, have looked forward for renewed prosperity for the place in which they were pleased to live.

The first port of entry in Rockland county was the Piermont creek, then known as the "slote." The name by which the place was designated at that time was Tappan, and the boats than ran up the creek to the old mill dam, at the spot where the Haddock building now stands, and stopped at Tappan Landing, by the dam. This creek was of great importance to the early settlers in that region, for it afforded them an outlet for the produce which they wished to market. Sloops sailed from the river up the creek, and were loaded with produce, which they carried to New York to market. This method of travel was extremely slow, and consequently the shipment of produce was not very frequent. Raisers of produce continued this method of sending their goods to market until 1827, when steamboat navigation was established.

When the New York and Erie Railroad was built, in 1839, and the long pier, which still exists, was built a mile out into the river, the name

of the place was changed to Piermont. The name was suggested both by the pier and the high mountains which form a firm and beautiful background for the village.

One of the early settlers of this region built a mill on the creek or slote, and long before the Revolution Abraham Mabie opened a store in the building and continued it until the close of that war. In 1783, or thereabout, this store came into the possession of Major Abraham Taulman, who conducted it until his death, in 1835, when his sons succeeded him. These sons continued the business until 1856, when John Myers bought them out. In 1857 Myers sold out to Roger Haddock, who remained in the old building until 1876, when he moved his stock and business to the large brick building which he erected in 1875, and which is now occupied by the Hasbrouck Motor Company, about half-way to Sparkill.

The post office here was established in 1815, and on March 25th of that year Philip Dubey was appointed Postmaster. The name of the post-office then was changed. On May 28th, 1830, Morris Bartow was made Postmaster; Peter T. Taulman became Postmaster on April 9, 1834, and the name of the office was changed to Slote. Finally, on June 26th, 1839, the name of the office was changed to Piermont. The names of the Postmasters who have succeeded Peter H. Taulman are: David Clark, S. A. Jessup, John B. Wandle, Richard Wandle, Abram J. Storms and David Doremus, who was appointed under the present administration of President Roosevelt.

Piermont's first schoolhouse was built early in the nineteenth century. It stood on the east side of the creek on the road to Palisades. This building was succeeded by a new one in 1845. Another change was made in 1884, when a larger schoolhouse was erected at a cost of \$5,000. The present handsome and up-to-date school building, bearing the name of Tappan Zee High School, is the result of a combination of progressive forces for the purpose of raising the standard of education in the village and affording the children first-class facilities for acquiring a good education. By a special act of the Legislature of 1897-8, Union Free School District, No. 2, Sparkill; District No. 3, Piermont, and Common School District No. 8, Grand View, were consolidated at a special election held in April, 1898, and the new district is No. 3. A committee was appointed to procure a site for a large new school build-

ing, and the present site was purchased from the Blauvelt estate. Plans were then prepared, submitted and adopted, and the Board of Education called a special meeting of the qualified voters of the district to vote upon a resolution authorizing them to borrow the sum of \$24,000 and issue therefor twenty-four bonds of \$1,000 each for the erection of a new schoolhouse. This election was held on November 3, 1898, and the resolution was carried. The new building was erected and elaborate and interesting dedication exercises were held in the school room, which was crowded on the evening of January 15th, 1900. The Board of Education, through whose faithful and efficient direction the work was carried on to successful completion, consisted of: William F. Mastin, President; Charles Haring, Clerk and Trustee, and Trustees Anna T. P. May, Marie S. Yale, Eleanor T. Westervelt, Lewis R. Smith, George M. Hard, David W. Kipp and John J. Mead. The school was named the Tappan Zee High School, and is under the Principalship of Sidney F. Firman, who is assisted by a good sized corps of instructors.

The population of Piermont Village, by the census of 1900, was 1,153.

The building of the Erie railroad made Piermont what it was in its most prosperous days. The erection of the round house and car shops there brought in a large amount of ready money, and being the terminus of that road made it the place of residence of a large number of men in the railroad service, with their families. Two round houses, a machine, car and paint shop, planing mills, a foundry and other buildings necessary at the terminal point of a railroad, were erected, all together covering an area of a little over four acres. In 1860, the first year of the Civil War, the prosperity of Piermont was at its height. The population in that year was 2,426 and everyone was thrifty and happy. Two years later the Erie road changed its terminus to Jersey City, and this was a heavy blow for Piermont, from which the place did not recover for many years. The company's works were taken to Jersey City, and, in consequence, many families were obliged to leave. It is said by some of the older residents that in the early part of 1862 the population of Piermont had been reduced at least one-half, and that many more removed from the place during the spring and summer of that year. Piermont, however, continued as the terminus for passengers and

freight on the Northern Railroad until in 1870, when the Nyack branch of that road was completed and opened.

Piermont became an incorporated village in 1850, with the following officers: President, Peter H. Taulman; Trustees, J. G. Blauvelt, James A. Hopson, S. S. Post and J. T. Walsh; Clerk, Cornelius Hoffman. The present officers are; O. W. P. Westervelt, President; George E. DeGroat, George Grimme, G. I. Clayton, W. H. Myers, Trustees; John W. Aureyansen, Clerk; John B. Wandle, Treasurer.

Empire Engine Company No. 1, which is still in existence, with an efficient membership, was the first company of the Piermont Fire Department, which was organized in 1852, with James Westervelt as Chief, and its engine house was owned by the Erie Company. Protection Company, No. 1, was organized in 1856, but disbanded in 1878. Empire Company No. 1 is now equipped with a first-class steamer and does effective work at fires where an ample supply of water can be obtained. In some localities the water supply is very meagre, and the firemen, always ready to perform their duty, are thus handicapped.

Piermont has its share of societies, fraternal and otherwise. The oldest is Piermont Lodge, No. 83, I. O. O. F., which was organized Feb. 1st, 1843, with William DeVoe, Noble Grand; D. A. Mabie, Vice Grand, John J. Lawrence, Secretary; John B. Wandle, Treasurer.

This lodge is still in a prosperous condition, with a good membership and has handsome new quarters recently fitted up and tastefully furnished. Viola Lodge, Rebekah Degree, a woman's branch of the order, is a recent valuable addition to Odd Fellowship in Piermont.

Wawayanda Lodge, No. 315, F. & A. M., was organized in June, 1853, with D. B. Parsons, W. M.; R. H. Black, S. W.; E. G. Bennet, J. W.; John Randall, Treasurer; D. C. Noe, Secretary; Levi F. Ward, S. D.; John R. Baker, J. D. Rockland Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, was organized in April, 1867, but has since removed to Nyack.

Rockland Council, No. 491, American Legion of Honor, was organized in April, 1881, with F. B. Wright, Commander; S. G. Clark, Vice Commander; Isaac E. Gillies, Secretary; George Pierson, Jr., Collector; George A. Knapp, Treasurer; Ward Phillips, Guide; C. V. A. Blauvelt, Warden; J. W. Adriance, Sentry; E. G. Tucker, Past Commander.

The Piermont Rowing Association, organized in October, 1879, is still a thrifty organization, although affording but little sport in latter

years in the way of aquatics. The Association's first officers were: President, Edward N. Whiton; Vice President, Lewis G. Clark; Secretary, F. B. Wright; Captain, J. A. Styles; Lieutenant, A. X. Fallon. The present fine boat house of the club was built in the winter of 1879-'80. In the last few years the house has been used principally for social affairs and bowling. A. X. Fallon, the first Lieutenant of the Association, then a modest and always honest lawyer, is now County Judge of Rockland County.

What has proved a very useful organization in the village is the Piermont Improvement Association, which has done a large amount of work to bring about what its name suggests—improvement. This association was organized April 18, 1892, and incorporated under the New York State Laws August 11, 1896. Its officers are: President, William F. Mastin; Secretary, Charles Haring; Treasurer, John C. Haring. The Piermont Free Library is an outgrowth of the Improvement Association, and is under the immediate supervision of the Woman's Committee, with Mrs. M. L. Yale, Chairman; Miss Eleanor T. Haring, Librarian, and Miss A. E. Haring, Assistant Librarian.

Renewed prosperity for Piermont in an industrial line seems now assured by two enterprises recently established. One of these, the larger of the two, is the Piermont Paper Company, which in 1901 purchased a large tract of land where the ear shops and round house formerly stood, and erected thereon an immense brick building for the manufacture of paper of all kinds. The work started up in February of this year and has gradually increased. The Piermont Paper Company was incorporated at Albany on January 23rd, 1902, with a capital of \$500,000. The Directors are: Crawford Fairbanks, of Terre Haute, Indiana; Martin R. Williams and Charles E. Williams, of Piermont; William J. Alford, of Anderson, Indiana, and Benjamin I. Harter, of Chicago.

The Hasbrouck Motor Works, established in 1900, is also an important industry, occupying the large Haddock building, on the road to Sparkill. This company is making motors for yachts and other vessels. The officers are: President, Stephen A. Hasbrouck; Vice President, E. J. Collins; Secretary and Treasurer, Dr. Stephen Hasbrouck.

SPARKILL.

Up to 1870 Sparkill bore the name of Upper Piermont. The residents became dissatisfied with the latter name and gave it the title of the creek which passes through it—the Sparkill. Isaac A. Spencer was appointed first Postmaster on May 13, 1872, and held the position until his sudden death, early in 1880, when he was succeeded by his wife, Lucretia Spencer. Miss Vincent succeeded her and Mrs. Auryansen is the present Postmistress. Sparkill is chiefly a place of residences.

ORANGETOWN'S CEMETERIES.

In the different parts of Orangetown may still be seen occasional evidences of private burying grounds where, many years ago, the remains of deceased persons were interred, but these were not known as public cemeteries, nor was there such a cemetery established in this town for the reception of the dead from any part of the county from which friends desired to bring them, until 1847. In that year, singularly enough, the two most beautiful and most conspicuous cemeteries along the Hudson river were founded. One of these was Oak Hill Cemetery, situated on the hillside west of Nyack village, and the other was Rockland Cemetery, on the hill west of Piermont village. These two far-famed burial places have steadily been improved, and persons of note from different quarters of the globe are buried in both.

OAK HILL CEMETERY.

Oak Hill Cemetery succeeded two smaller burial places in Nyack, the first being on the old C. T. Smith property, west of what is known as the "Bight," now at the lower limit of South Nyack, and the other the Presbyterian Cemetery, two blocks west of where the Baptist Church is situated. The bodies from these two old cemeteries were removed to Oak Hill Cemetery in 1873 and 1869 respectively.

The wisdom and necessity of establishing Oak Hill Cemetery was talked of by the citizens of Nyack and vicinity in 1847, and it was the universal opinion that such a move should be made. In February, 1848, a public meeting was held and it was unanimously resolved to dedicate the ground as a place of burial. In June of that year the plans were put into execution and the ceremonies, religious in their character, were

appropriate and elaborate. The dedication service was performed by the Rev. Dr. Hardenburg and an oration was delivered by the Hon. Hugh Maxwell. David D. Smith was the owner of the land up to March 17th, 1865. He received four-fifths of the purchase money from the sale of plots and the remaining fifth was held by the Cemetery Board for the improvement of the grounds. On March 17, 1865, the cemetery was incorporated by a special act of the Legislature. The cemetery steadily improved and several times it became necessary to enlarge it by the purchase of adjoining grounds.

In the winter of 1899-1900 a movement was started by a party of men from New York city to get control of Oak Hill Cemetery, and never before, in the more than half-century of its existence, had the plot-owners and others interested in the ground become so aroused over anything as they were over this proceeding to get charge of the management of the cemetery's affairs. The city parties were interested in the Stephen Merritt Burial Company, New York, and they told the Trustees of Oak Hill Cemetery that they would place them in charge of this ground they would make great improvements thereon and cause a great sale of plots to their friends in the city. A majority of the Trustees believed the story told them, and five of them resigned so that the remaining four could appoint the New York men in their places. Those appointed were: Rev. Ross Taylor, W. Baldwin, S. T. Dennis, V. E. Prentiss and Frank E. Campbell. This action was all taken without the previous knowledge of the public, and the new members of the Board, constituting a majority, purchased an additional plot of ground to the cemetery for \$1,500, marked it off in plots, placed a value upon each plot and issued shares, or what they called "certificates of indebtedness," to the amount of \$200,000!

When this action became known to the plot-owners they became aroused, held a public meeting and retained Congressman A. S. Tompkins to take legal proceedings to overthrow what the new men had done. Rev. Ross Taylor had been made chairman of the Board, and the annual meeting of plot-owners, for the election of three Trustees, held in August, 1900, was more largely attended than any meeting ever held before. The crowd was angry and would not permit President Taylor to preside. When the time for election came Mr. Taylor and his lawyer attempted to vote the certificates of indebtedness which they had

with them, so as to out-vote the plot-owners, but the crowd would not permit this, and John D. Blauvelt, Warren D. Sawyer and James E. Sherwood, of Nyack, were elected. The matter was taken before the Supreme Court, where the acts of Ross Taylor and his associates were proved illegal and the certificates of indebtedness of no value whatever. The last member of the Board from New York city has since been ousted, and the affairs of Oak Hill Cemetery are now in better condition than for many years past. John D. Blauvelt is President of the Board and J. L. Halstead is Superintendent.

ROCKLAND CEMETERY.

Rockland Cemetery, above Piermont, with an existence equal in term of years to that of Oak Hill Cemetery, has lately grown in interest and in beauty. It faces the broad Tappan Zee on the east, while from the third plateau, on a perfectly clear day, may be seen the tops of spars of vessels on Long Island Sound. This plateau has within a few years been made famous by the burial of several prominent persons, including the late Lieut.-Commander Gorringe, who a few years ago brought to this country the obelisk which has since adorned Central Park, and not far away from the Gorringe plot are buried the remains of Gen. John C. Fremont, the great "American Pathfinder."

Rockland Cemetery has an area of about 200 acres. Its founder was the late Eleazer Lord, who conceived the plan in 1847 of providing a burial place for some of the dead of New York city. Mr. Lord's plans were put into execution, but when, in 1862, the Erie railroad terminus, which had been at Piermont, was changed to Jersey City, the population of that region greatly decreased, and the cemetery matters were brought almost to a standstill. Early in the spring of 1880 William H. Whiton, an extensive land owner of Piermont, in conjunction with several other prominent men, revived Mr. Lord's project. They constructed miles of excellent, smooth roads, and bridges, rustic houses, arbors, seats, etc. were built. The improvements cost over \$50,000. Since that time the career of the cemetery has been a prosperous one. George O. Martine is the Superintendent.

TELEPHONE SERVICE IN ORANGETOWN.

Orangetown was the first town in Rockland county to have telephone service and Nyack was the first village. Before the service was intro-

duced here in a practical way, a man interested in extending the invention, to show its usefulness hired the Nyack Opera House and connected it by wire with the public school building. Telephones were put in both places and those who so desired were allowed to converse between those two places. The long distance telephones had not yet been invented, but the unimproved kind that were then used were a wonder to the people.

Soon afterward it was learned that Nyack was to have regular telephone service, and an exchange was established in the Commercial building by the Westchester Telephone Company on October 15, 1883, with Edgar P. Blauvelt as manager. This company continued the service until July 1st, 1896, when it was absorbed by the New York Telephone Company, which began at once to improve the service and the patronage rapidly increased. Within the last two years exchanges have been opened in Suffern, Spring Valley and Piermont, and the company's lines extend all through the county, except in the northern part, where in Haverstraw, Garnerville, West Haverstraw and Stony Point, the Hudson River Telephone Company have control. Mr. E. E. Blauvelt gave up the position of manager for some time a few years ago, but for several years since he has again been in charge and now manages the service all over the county where the New York company's lines extend.

ORANGETOWN IN THE CIVIL WAR.

Orangetown led the county in obtaining recruits for the Union army in the Civil War. Immediately after President Lincoln's call for volunteers recruiting was begun in Nyack, and by May 1st, 1861, Company G of the Seventeenth Regiment, N. Y. Volunteers, was enrolled and ready for service. This company was as follows:

Officers—James M. Demarest, Captain; Luther Caldwell, First Lieutenant; James H. Christie, Second Lieutenant; S. C. Mabie, Brevet Second Lieutenant; William Matthews, Orderly Sergeant; Charles H. Hawkins, Second Sergeant; Jacob Baker, Third Sergeant; George E. Ingalls, Fourth Sergeant; Anthony Lydecker, First Corporal; Towt J. Waldron, Second Corporal; Charles H. Putnam, Third Corporal; George Phillips, Fourth Corporal.

Privates—Henry Bolmer, J. H. Bennett, David Baker, Isaac Blauvelt, Philip Bertenshaw, Harvey Curtis, John H. Conover, John Daily,

George Devoe, George Decker, David Dutcher, Jacob Dutcher, William H. Dealing, James N. Dines, James Driscoll, William Ennis, George Foster, Anthony Foster, T. V. Foley, Alfred Garrabrant, George Hawkins, Bernard Harrison, Joseph Hoffman, William Ives, James Knapp, George Lyons, Charles Meissner, W. Mondawka, Joseph Minnerly, George Neve, Walter B. Neal, John H. Palmer, John Parcels, Burrell Putney, Alexander Ryder, John H. Ryder, David Rose, Dennis Salters, I. D. Smith, Thomas See, George Tremper, A. G. Thompson, Edgar N. Waldron, William J. Waldron, Carrol S. Waldron, Adam White, Richard White, Henry Wood, John N. Wood, Daniel Wood, Daniel Wootten, Isaac Dean, Daniel Dean, William H. Baker.

Company G left Nyack on the morning of Thursday, May 9, 1861, by the steamboat Isaac P. Smith for New York, where it remained until June 14, when it was transferred to Staten Island. There the men received their uniforms, and on June 21st they started for Washington. The 17th Regiment did valient service and won honors in its work toward saving the Union.

A relief organization was formed at a meeting held on May 24th, 1861, to take measures toward aiding the families of the volunteers who might be in want. The officers of this organization were: President, D. D. Smith; Vice Presidents, I. S. Lydecker, A. L. Christie, Tunis Smith, George Green, D. D. Demarest, J. W. Towt, Peter DePew, David J. Blauvelt, Ferdinand S. Nichols, Isaac Hart, John V. Burr, William B. Collins; Secretaries, William Voorhis, Daniel Burr, Colonel Isaac Sloat; Treasurer, Daniel D. Demarest.

After the departure of Company G, 17th Regiment, volunteering continued in Nyack and not a very long time elapsed before forty-three members of Companies A and B of the 127th Regiment, N. Y. Volunteers, had enlisted: William H. Ayers, Edward H. Ackerman, James Ackerman, William A. Benson, Isaac Brewer, Sr., Cornelius A. Christie, David I. Christie, George Cooper, Augustus Conover, Jr., James Creany, Samuel Conklin, Henry DeBaun, John DeBaun, Simeon Forshay, James Fields, Thomas Gavey, John Henderson, George Hoffman, P. Hefferman, Richard Kelly, Alfred Lowdie, James Murray, Jesse Osborne, Josiah Rhodes, John Rutherford, Charles Rodgers, Daniel Scott, Tunis D. Seaman, Albert Waldron, Henry E. Smith, George Smith, Charles H. Snedeker, Alfred G. Thompson, Brundage Tompkins,



CAPTAIN JOEL WILSON, U. S. V., A. M.

James Tompkins, Edward Tucker, Peter Tallman, Charles H. Warner, Thomas V. W. Warner, J. Bradley Ware, Thomas Welsh, George W. Wood, John Ward.

The following volunteers in the Sixth N. Y. Heavy Artillery enlisted from Orangetown: Captain Wilson Defendorf, John G. Daily, Charles Dean, John Dean, Isaac Felter, Frank M. Haeselbarth, William J. Jordan, Charles Meissner, Jr., George Phillips, John H. Wootten, Andrew Dorfner.

Among the other volunteers who went from Orangetown in different companies were: Abram Bolmer, Isaac Blanch, Lemuel Hudson, George A. Ennis, Henry Ennis, William E. Tuttle, Frank B. Jones, John H. Jones, George H. Jones, Wallace Gilman, John H. Miller, George H. Phillips, Louis E. Hagen, Charles McElroy, George Quick, Robert C. Walker, Levi Van Riper, Jacob E. Westervelt. James L. Fenton was in the 1st Regiment, Volunteer Engineers.

The above list is not complete, nor is it possible to make it so, as no complete muster rolls or other records are obtainable, but it is the very best that can be made up from the data obtainable.

Many men were drafted from Orangetown in the drawing which began at Tarrytown on July 20th, 1863, but they were not obliged to go to war, for at a special town meeting it was voted to borrow \$30,000 on the credit of Orangetown, to pay the exemption fee of \$300 for every one who was drafted. This money helped to pay for substitutes, many of whom were willing to go for the bounty which they received and at the same time do service for the maintenance of the Government. A second draft took place on May 9th, 1864, but Orangetown had filled her quota. President Lincoln made his third call for men on July 18, 1864, and to meet this demand the people of Orangetown voted to raise the bounty of \$300 per volunteer. Filling her quota by this means, Orangetown was not drawn upon for men.

ORANGETOWN IN THE SPANISH WAR.

When the Nation was aroused by the blowing up of the Maine in Havana harbor in February, 1898, the same spirit of patriotism which sent a thrill through the young manhood of Orangetown in the early '60's was again manifested, and many young men, including some who were too young for Uncle Sam's service, expressed a desire to enlist

under his flag in a war against Spain. While there was no certainty at that time that such a war would take place, these young men were anxious to be among the first in line, and a call for volunteers was issued in Nyack. On April 16 a meeting was held in the Grand Army rooms and it was then decided to form either a militia company or a company of volunteers. This was the first move made in Rockland county toward the organization of such a company, and it was successful, for more than fifty young men enrolled their names, although a number of them afterward failed to pass a medical examination and were thus disqualified. Mr. George E. Baldwin, of the Seventh Regiment, took them in charge and aided them in their preparations. Other meetings were afterward held and the interest became intensified.

These recruits were ready when war became imminent, and on May 13 they were ordered to the State camp at Peekskill, where they were mustered into the 12th Regiment, N. Y. Vols. On May 27th the regiment left Peekskill for New York on the steamer Glen Island and from there were taken to Chickamauga, where they went into camp. Later in the fall they were transferred to camp at Lexington, Ky. On Dec. 27th the regiment was sent to Matanzas, Cuba, and remained there until, on March 8th, 1889, the soldiers were ordered home, to be mustered out. Before leaving for Cuba, however, two of the Nyack boys, Privates Howard Wyre and James G. Conklin, were discharged because of ill health and came home. The Twelfth did not see active service in battle, but in their camp life they were loyal to every duty and ready for any call that might come to them.

Those in the Twelfth Regiment from Orangetown, most of them from Nyack, were:

Behringer, Geo. F.
Behringer, Chas. A.
Bliven, Robert A.
Bliven, Albert A.
Bolmer, Ray
Blauvelt, Louis (Corp.)
Conklin, James G.
Coggeshall, Louis I.
Devine, T. J.
Davis, G. F. W.
Daly, John
Felter, Clyde
Fenton, Fred. L.
Frae, Frank

Gesner, Harry
Green, Edward
Handy, Frank W.
Morf, Fred.
Mitchell, Peter
Prindle, Charles
Stach, Max
Wood, Edward
Wobie, George A.
Kessler, John H.
O Leary, T. J.
Stoothoff, Robt. C.
Vanderhoof, Harry
Williams, Harry

Wyre, Howard

The soldiers in the Twelfth Regiment were not the only volunteers from Orangetown. Other branches of service were well represented from this town, as follows:

NAVAL RESERVES.

Atlee, Porter	Babcock, Robert
Babcock, Philip	Christie, Chester
Masterton, Seymour	Sawyer, Warren L.
Sturtevant, Geo. A.	Weeks, James

7th N. Y. VOLUNTEERS.

Adriance, J. H.	Schuster, C. Henry
Lewis, J. L. (Sergt.)	Bleecker, Capt. A. J.
Whitman, Frank H.	Diedrick, Joseph

8th N. Y. VOLUNTEERS.

Bannister, Clyde	Slocum, Fred.
McGinley, James	Tallman, John H.

U. S. NAVY.

Fluhr, Augustus	McMahon, Thomas
	Lieut. Harlowe

9th N. Y. VOLUNTEERS.

Brawley, John

1st NEBRASKA VOLUNTEERS.

Myers, Otto E.

203d N. Y. VOLUNTEERS.

Knapp, Clyde (Corp.)
ASTOR BATTERY.
Robbins, N. C.

PHILADELPHIA LIGHT ARTILLERY.

Baldwin, William	Smith, Harold P. (Corp.)
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22d N. Y. VOLUNTEERS.

Huyler, Geo. S.

47th N. Y. VOLUNTEERS.

Kuhn, Frank

201st N. Y. VOLUNTEERS.

Crawford, Merritt	Moore, Francis V. R.
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1st VOLUNTEER ENGINEERS.

Peeke, E. C. Benedict	Whalen, Matthew
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22d U. S. INFANTRY.

Miller, William

TROOP A.

Bradley, S. Rowe

23d U. S. INFANTRY.

Hauseman, Rudolph (Sergt.)

42d U. S. INFANTRY.

Sutton, Charles W.

Of those in the above named roll two are dead. Corporal Harold P. Smith and Private William Baldwin, of the Philadelphia Light Artillery, contracted a fever in Porto Rico, which grew worse on the ship as they came home. Both appeared to be doing well at their homes here, when Corporal Smith grew suddenly worse and unexpectedly died on Sept. 12, 1898. He had a military funeral and burial, largely attended and very impressive. Private Baldwin was seriously ill for a long time, but finally recovered.

Private Charles Sutton enlisted in the Forty-second Regiment in October, 1900, to do service in the Philippines. He died near Manila, of dysentery, on March 18, 1901, and his remains were brought to his home in Nyack, from which place they were taken to the German burying ground in Clarkstown for interment.

Private William Miller, of the 22nd Infantry, while on a transport off Cuba, caught his foot in a tow line and crushed the foot so badly that amputation was necessary.

N. C. Robbins, of the Astor Battery, was in several severe engagements in the Philippines, and on one occasion a bullet pierced his clothing, but he escaped unhurt.

On the afternoon of April 5, 1899, a parade of all the returned soldiers took place in Nyack, joined by the firemen and many citizens, and in the evening a banquet was given them in the Opera House, followed by speeches.

During the war a Woman's Auxiliary was formed in Nyack through the aid of Miss Helen M. Gould, and several soldiers' homes for sick and convalescent soldiers were opened in this place and continued until October.

PROTESTANT CHURCHES OF ORANGETOWN.

TAPPAN REFORMED CHURCH.

The Tappan Reformed Church was the first church organization in Rockland county. The early Dutch settlers of Orangetown had religious instincts and connections which led them to band themselves

together for the worship of God, and on October 24, 1694, eight years after the settlement of the Orangetown patent, they organized a society known as the "Low Dutch Reformed Church of Tappan." This church body was weak in worldly means, although strong in faith, and twenty-two years elapsed before it possessed an edifice in which to worship. The Rev. Guiliam Bertholf, who was pastor of the United Churches of Haekensack and Acquackanonuck, conducted the first services for the Tappan Church people, and performed the ministrations of his office for them. Mr. Bertholf was a native of Holland and came to America as a school teacher, catechiser and voorleser, which means a leader in singing, reading of scriptures and prayer. His work covered a large field, as he was the first regularly installed preacher in the State of New Jersey, and was also the only Dutch pastor in that State during the first fifteen years of his ministry. His duties consisted of spiritual work for all the Dutch people on the west side of the Hudson river as far north as the southern boundary of Ulster county, and also for those of Staten Island and Tarrytown. His salary in 1717 was £50 a year.

The Tappan congregation grew under Mr. Bertholf's pastorate, and in 1716 they built a church, a square stone edifice, upon the site occupied by the present church building. The congregation called its first regular pastor, the Rev. Frederic Muzelius, in 1724, and he remained in charge of this flock for twenty-five years. In 1749 Mr. Muzelius was relieved from active duty and made pastor emeritus. By this time a large part of the rest of the county had become settled, and the residents miles north of Tappan formed a separate church organization under the title of the Low Dutch Christian Reformed Church of New Hempstead. Three years after this the old Clarkstown church building was erected.

The Rev. Samuel Verbryck was called to the Tappan Church on July 17th, 1750, and in this "call" the Clarkstown Church was included. When he entered upon his duties he did not have a smooth sea ahead upon which to sail. There was considerable dissension over questions of church government and Mr. Verbryck found himself in "hot water" a great part of the time. He remained in this pastorate, however, until his death, on January 31, 1784, aged 84 years.

The Rev. Nicholas Lansing was the third pastor of the Church, being called on August 11, 1874. "Dominic Lansing," as he is familiarly

referred to by the descendants of the families of his time, commanded the respect of everyone and wielded a powerful and wide influence. In 1830 Mr. Lansing gave up the Clarkstown church and remained in charge of the Tappan Church until his death, on September 26th, 1835, aged 87 years.

The Rev. Isaac D. Cole became the next pastor of the Tappan Church. He was a native of Rockland County, having been born at New City, on January 25th, 1799. Mr. Cole remained in this church until February 9th, 1864. He died on August 30th, 1878, at Spring Valley, aged 79 years. The Rev. George M. S. Blauvelt was pastor of this church from 1864 until 1882, when he was followed by the Rev. Williamson. The Rev. M. H. Oliver is the present pastor.

PIERMONT REFORMED CHURCH.

The Reformed Church of Piermont was organized on January 27, 1839. The Rev. C. C. Vermile was stated supply until September, 1842, when the Rev. Cornelius E. Crispell, who is now pastor of the Reformed Church at Spring Valley, and celebrated his 82nd birthday on March 14, 1902, was ordained and installed as pastor at Piermont. This church has had the following pastors: 1842-1847, C. E. Crispell; 1847-1850, Daniel Lord; 1850-1851, J. Romeyn Berry; 1852-1855, Jacob West; 1857-1859, A. D. Lawrence Jewett; 1860-1865, Henry E. Decker; 1865-1871, Augustus F. Todd; 1872-1887, William C. Stitt; 1887-1893, J. Russell Verbryck; 1894-1900, Edward S. Ralston. The Rev. Dr. Hasbrouck is the present pastor. This church celebrated its sixtieth anniversary on January 27 and 29th, 1899, with elaborate services.

PIERMONT M. E. CHURCH.

The first Methodist preacher came to Piermont, as near as the records show, in the year 1810, and services were held in the school building in the evenings of week days. Services were held at different times after that for years. Those who have searched the records say there is no knowledge of a distinct Methodist Church society there before 1854. In the spring of 1857 Piermont was made a regular charge in connection with the other places, and in 1856 the present church edifice was

built, but not in its present condition, as it has been greatly improved within the last decade, and is now in a flourishing condition—more so, probably, than ever before since its institution. Among the pastors who have been sent by conference to this church are the following, from 1882: Rev. C. R. Snyder, 1882; Rev. W. C. Nelson, 1883; Rev. E. V. King, 1885; Rev. W. W. Vanderhoff, 1888; Rev. R. B. Lockwood, 1891 (for five years); Rev. H. C. Bice, 1896; Rev. S. D. Harris, 1897; Rev. C. S. Kemble, 1889; Rev. George Angleman, 1900, to the present time.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BLAUVELT.

The Presbyterian Church at Blauvelt, known for years as the Greenbush Presbyterian Church, which name still clings to the organization through ties of sacred fellowship and association, was organized on the evening of October 18, 1812. The Rev. Eliphalet Price was appointed by Presbytery to preach to the congregation on that date and take the necessary measures to form the church society. The church organization was formed with ten members.

The Rev. Andrew Thompson, the first pastor of the church, was installed in 1814, and was dismissed June 2, 1833. The church society held their services in the upper room of the Greenbush Academy for several years. The first church edifice was built of stone and occupied the site of the present building. It was erected in 1823 and dedicated January 14th, 1824. Abram G. Blauvelt gave the ground in deed bearing the date May 21st, 1823. This church building was destroyed by fire on September 18th, 1835. A new edifice was erected in 1836 and was dedicated April 5th, 1837. On October 24th, 1882, the second church building was burned, with the parsonage, and in 1883 the present church was built and was dedicated November 27th of that year.

The pastors of this church since the Rev. Abram Thompson have been as follows: Rev. Jared Dening, installed April 24, 1834; dismissed October 8, 1855. Rev. Thomas J. Evans, stated supply November 12, 1855; installed June 17, 1856, and dismissed in October, 1877. Rev. Henry E. Decker, supply from October, 1877, till November 11, 1883. Rev. Charles H. Lester, stated supply till 1884. Rev. Charles S. Hageman, D. D., stated supply till July 3, 1887; in his absence Rev. C. R. Blauvelt, Ph. D., of Nyack, officiating. Rev. Frederic J. Stanley, pastor, called July 24, 1887; installed October 26, 1887, and dismissed

June 16, 1889. Rev. Herman A. Goff, stated supply from April 1, 1890, till 1891. Rev. Charles A. Redgrave, pastor, called September 20, 1891; never installed, and resigned May 24, 1893. Rev. Joseph McCarrell Leiper, called as stated supply October 2, 1893; called as pastor April 4, 1894; installed October 30, 1894, and still pastor of this church.

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SPARKILL.

The first service in accordance with the rites of the Protestant Episcopal Church at Piermont was held in 1847, by the Rev. William Walker, in Dr. Lord's lime kiln building. At a meeting of the congregation held at the residence of one of the members on March 1st, 1848, the Christ Church parish was organized and the articles of incorporation were filed in the County Clerk's office on April 10, 1848. The Rev. William Walker resigned in 1848, and the Rev. John C. Sterling succeeded him. In the fall of 1849 the Rev. Solomon G. Hitchcock succeeded him.

In 1864 Thomas E. Blanch gave the land on which the present church stands, the church was commenced and on January 20, 1865, the corner-stone was laid. The building was consecrated September 7th, 1866. The Rev. S. G. Hitchcock continued as pastor until his death, on September 14th, 1877. He was succeeded by the Rev. Joseph M. Waite, the Rev. Theodore M. Peck and the Rev. F. Ward Denys. The Rev. Mr. Denys came to the church in 1890, and through his active work, in which he was heartily aided by members and friends of the church, he brought about many improvements. The church building was enlarged by the addition of a parish house, which doubled the seating capacity, and other improvements, both inside and out, were made. In 1898 the fiftieth anniversary of the church was celebrated with elaborate and interesting services. Mr. Denys resigned his charge on account of ill health, and left the church on May 1st, 1899. He is succeeded by the Rev. Arthur H. Proffit, who carries on his work very successfully.

BAPTIST CHURCH AT PIERMONT.

A Baptist Church was organized at Piermont in 1817, as an auxiliary of the Middletown Church, and continued in that connection until 1839, when the communicants at Piermont were constituted an inde-

pendent Baptist Church, under the name of the First Baptist Church of Piermont. The Rev. A. M. Torbet was pastor of this church until November, 1842, and he was followed by others until, finally, a few years ago, the services closed and the church closed. The last pastor there was the Rev. E. Crowell, who subsequently removed to Nyack, where he resided until 1900, when his wife died and he went, at the age of 82 years, to live with relatives in Massachusetts.

PALISADES M. E. CHURCH.

The Methodist Church at Palisades was built and dedicated in 1832. The organization of the church society here was due to the efforts of Moses Taylor and his wife, who established a class in 1820, and, through their influence, with other earnest co-workers, the society grew larger and stronger. In 1858 the congregation realized the urgent need of a larger church building, and one was erected in that year. Bishop Janes dedicated the new edifice on May 15, 1859.

TAPPAN M. E. CHURCH.

A Methodist Church society was formed at Tappan in 1854, and in 1856 they purchased the edifice which had been built in 1826 for the True Reformed Church Society. In 1866 the society sold the building to the German M. E. Society, which soon became very strong.

PALISADES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The Presbyterian Church of Palisades was formally organized by the Presbytery of New York on October 14th, 1863, and the Rev. J. Greenleaf, Jr., was installed as pastor on October 21st of that year. The foundation of the church was begun in June, 1863, and in December of that year the building was completed. The first religious service in the new building was held January 3rd, 1864.

The pastors have been: Rev. J. Greenleaf, Jr., from October 21, 1863; Rev. John K. Demarest, from October 16, 1866, to February 13, 1870; Rev. Aaron H. Hand, D. D. from October 18, 1870, to September, 1879; Rev. J. W. McIlvain, from December 26, 1879, to September 30, 1882; Rev. Newton S. Reed followed, and the Rev. Mr. Ford is the present pastor.

NYACK CHURCHES.

Acknowledgement is given to R. H. Fenton for the history of the Nyack Churches. .

The early settlers of Nyack were mostly of the first and second generations of Dutch emigrants and they were, like their Puritan neighbors, a religious people. They brought with them their huge, clasped Bibles and emplanted their rigorous principles in the community, such as a reverence for the Sabbath and a strict adherence to all the ordinances of the church. The first house of worship, as is shown in another chapter, was established at Tappan in 1694, and from that time for over a century it served as their objective point and source of attraction each Sabbath, although it was a long distance away. To reach the religious services it was necessary for them to travel a distance of about seven miles in going and another seven to return, but the interest they took in their church stimulated them to thus travel all through these years. Occasionally the early domanies would visit the neighborhood, once a year, at least, and at such times when there were wedding celebrations, or when called upon to speak words of consolation over the dead, and sometimes, with a few neighbors gathered together, would exhort to righteousness those whom they could not otherwise reach. Religion among the professed Christians in those days was not the light sentiment it is at the present, but was recognized as bearing the fearful alternative of eternal misery or ever-lasting joy, to be decided with fear and trembling. Thus the foundations were laid for the high moral standing of the community at the present time.

Later the church at Clarkstown was organized and some of the people went to that church in preference, but the distance, too, was great. It continued so until after the beginning of 1800, when the Baptists and Methodists began to establish meetings in Nyack. Soon after the new schoolhouse was built, Elder Daniel Steers, of the Piermont and Middletown Baptist Churches, conducted services there occasionally. At about the same time the Methodist preachers began to itinerate their circuits along the Hudson, and in 1811 Revs. John Robertson and John Finley were appointed to the Nyack circuit.

In 1812 the Presbyterian Church at Greenbush (now Blauvelt) was organized and several families from Nyack attended service there regularly. An effort was made in the same year by some of the people of

Nyack to have a church organized here in connection with the one in Clarkstown, lest some other denomination should erect a building and thus draw together the supporters of that church. The Classis of the Dutch Reformed Church refused to grant the request, and it was therefore resolved to build a Methodist Church. A lot was secured in Upper Nyack and through the efforts of William Palmer, Nicholas Williamson and John Green, the little stone church was built, in 1813.

Notwithstanding the existence of a Methodist Church and the occasional meetings in the schoolhouse, a number of the families adhered to the Presbyterian Church at Blauvelt, and it is recorded that on January 13th, 1816, a meeting of session was held at Nyack. At that meeting Joshua Brush, Ann Brush, Robert Hart, Phoebe Hart, John Van Houten, Catherine Van Houten, Catherine Tallman, Catherine Hubbard, Susanna Smith, Mary Ramsay and Mary Sarvent were "admitted to the privileges of the Lord's Supper." On January 14th Isaac Dutcher and James Springsted were received on profession of faith. Soon after this Robert Hart and John Van Houten, Jr., were made Ruling Elders in the church at Greenbush. On April 8th, 1816, the "Presbyterian Society of Nyack" was taken under the care of the Greenbush Church, by appointment of the Presbytery of Hudson. Rev. Andrew Thompson was the first pastor of the united congregations, having been installed about the year 1813. At the time the society was organized, in 1816, a lot was procured from the DePew property, and a small stone church erected on the site still owned by them on Broadway. The ground was given on the condition that when a building was put up, the Baptists should be allowed to worship there on alternate Sabbaths, but after a short time Elder Steers died and the Baptist society was dissolved.

In 1830 another church society began to materialize in the community. The members of the Reformed Dutch at Clarkstown, who lived in the village, began to grow tired of traveling so far, and not wishing to unite with the Methodist or Presbyterian, they held services of their own. These were on Sunday afternoons, first in the Presbyterian Church, then in private houses, and later in the Mansion House. On June 1st, 1835, they met at the house of Peter Smith, who gave a lot of ground on which to build. It was deeded to John Lydecker, Tunis Smith, Abram A. Tallman and Cornelius T. Smith, as trustees. The builder was Thomas Burd and the cost was a little over \$2,000. It was dedicated May 29th, 1836. The congregation still remained connected

with the one at Clarkstown and Rev. Alexander H. Warner preached here alternately until 1837., when his successor, Rev. Peter J. Quick, came, and officiated until the following year. On April 24th, 1838, the congregation was organized into a separate church and Rev. Philip Milledoler Brett was ordained pastor on the 13th of September, 1838. He was highly spoken of as a scholar and preacher and Christian gentleman. While here he had a son, born—Rev. Cornelius Brett—who became one of the best known ministers of the denomination. Mr. Brett remained until August, 1842, when he withdrew, owing to ill-health. He died in Brooklyn in 1860, aged 42 years.

His successor was Rev. Charles S. Hageman, who came in 1842. He was a preacher of great ability and remained for ten years, when he was called to a larger church at Poughkeepsie. Dr. Hageman, on retiring from active service, returned to Nyack to live. He died at Riverdale, N. Y., October 20th, 1901, over 84 years of age.

The third pastor was Rev. Benjamin VanZandt, who was installed in April, 1853, and resigned in January, 1856, to become principal of the Rockland Female Institute. He died in 1895, aged about 86 years.

Next came Rev. Daniel Lord. He became pastor March 11th, 1857, and remained until May 1st, 1860. As a preacher he was original and theatrical in his style and eloquent in delivery. Dr. Cole, in his description of the Reformed Church pastors, says: "He was fluent and vivacious; of a quick nerve, bright temperament, and a magnet to all around him; and as a preacher he was true to the word, to his master and to souls." He died September 10th, 1899, at Jordansville, N. Y., in his own pulpit, in a church to which he had returned the third time as pastor. He was stricken with apoplexy just after he gave out a hymn and died as he was beginning to sing it with his people.

Next came Rev. Uriah Marvin, and his pastorate lasted ten years, from April, 1860, to October, 1870. He was considered a very able preacher, both in the delivery and in the instructiveness of his sermons. He died in 1898, aged 83 years.

The sixth pastor was Rev. Henry V. Voorhees, who served from 1870 to 1878. He died in 1897, aged 72 years. Dr. Cole says: "He will be best remembered for the splendid imagery and gorgeous diction of his sermons and addresses, all written out to the end with the most studious elaboration. As a word painter he was almost without a rival."

Mr. Voorhees always used written sermons, but the brilliancy of his eloquence was fully displayed in his extemporaneous addresses.

Following him was Rev. William H. McCorkle, a stated supply from September, 1878, to April, 1881. Then came as regular pastor Rev. William Hendee Clark, serving from June, 1881, to May, 1886. Mr. Clark was very active in his pastoral duties, and is best remembered for his efforts to promote law and order and morality in the community at large.

Rev. John Cornelius Van Deventer came next. He was installed October 6th, 1886, and died November 8th, 1892, at the parsonage. Dr. Cole speaks of him as "modest in spirit, refined in manner, clear as a preacher, devoted to his work, he was most dearly beloved by his people and will be enshrined in their hearts as long as memory lasts." His death was caused by kidney trouble, having been growing worse for the past two years. He was 44 years of age.

The church then called Rev. William J. Leggett, who began his pastorate April 2d, 1893. During many years past the church building had become in a condition to need extensive repairs, and so, in 1900, by reason of a generous donation from Mrs. Garret Van Nostrand, they were enabled to build a new chapel, and in 1901 took down the old frame structure and built in front of the chapel an elegant new brick church. Rev. Mr. Leggett resigned just before the close of the year. As a pastor he was faithful to his duties and was held in high esteem, and as a preacher he expounded the pure gospel, always avoiding the sensational. He had a fine delivery and as an extemporaneous speaker he was forceful and eloquent.

The new edifice of the Reformed people is a fine building and has a large, heavy tower on the northeast corner, in which is a town clock with illuminated dials, an improvement over the former one that the old building contained. The church is an ornament to the town and well perpetuates the memory of Mrs. Garret Van Nostrand, whose husband was formerly one of the leaders in the official membership of the organization. A new organ was also placed in the auditorium. It was the work of Michael A. Clark, the well known organ builder, and cost \$3,000. The new church was dedicated on the evening of March 26th, 1902, Rev. J. Preston Searle, D. D., of New Brunswick Seminary, preaching the sermon.

In 1834 a change occurred in the pastorate of the Presbyterian Church by the retirement of Rev. Andrew Thompson, and Rev. Jared Dewing taking his place. Of the first pastor, Mr. Thompson, who was, for so many years, a familiar visitor in the scattered homes of the little community, much might be said in regard to his high qualifications for the ministry; his gentlemanly bearing, Christian virtues and ability in the pulpit. Hon. J. W. Ferdon speaks of him as "a man of imposing manners, with a mind of superior natural power, highly cultivated, which made him strong in the pulpit;" and in describing him and Rev. Mr. Wynkoop, of the Hempstead Church, says that "when they joined in a contest of mind with mind, as they often did, in the temperance and Bible societies, they each drew blades as keen and polished and pliant as those of Damascus."

In 1839 the stone church was taken down and a larger frame building erected. In 1838 the Baptists made a second effort, this time under the lead of Elder Griffith, to establish a congregation, but did not succeed. In 1842 the Methodists, having flourished so well, built a new frame church on Piermont avenue, and ten years later began supporting pastors of their own. The first pastors of the church were: W. Robertson, 1853; Benjamin Day, 1854; A. L. Brice, 1856; J. N. Felch, 1858; R. B. Yard, 1859; James Ayres, 1861; R. B. Lockwood, 1863; B. O. Parvin, 1865; Solomon Parsons, 1867; S. H. Opdyke, 1869; S. B. Rooney, 1871; C. E. Little, 1872. The later appointments to this church were: Revs. S. H. Baldwin, Elbert Clement, W. S. Gallaway, J. R. Daniels, William Day, E. P. Hammond, C. S. Woodruff, J. I. Boswell, E. C. Dutcher, J. B. Taylor, J. H. Egbert and C. S. Kemble.

Among this long list of ministers Rev. A. L. Brice served for a long time in the later years of his life as a Presiding Elder. Rev. R. B. Yard served as chaplain of a regiment in the early part of the Rebellion. Rev. B. O. Parvin, while here, conducted revival meetings, which were attended with more than usual success, and the congregation grew much larger while he and his successor, Rev. S. Parsons, remained. Rev. S. B. Rooney was best remembered for the ability of his sermons. Rev. S. H. Baldwin had been a missionary to China previous to his coming to Nyack, and went there again later. Rev. J. Reeves Daniels was perhaps the best example of an active, outspoken Methodist minister of the entire list. Rev. William Day while here originated the custom for the churches of the village to unite in welcoming a new pastor coming to

either of the churches by closing their own places of worship on the first Sunday evening. This custom has been carried out since 1880. Rev. C. S. Woodruff was an earnest exponent of the Word, and Rev. J. I. Boswell combined both depth of thought and clearness of expression, which made him entertaining as a preacher. The present pastor, Rev. Charles S. Kemble, may properly be classed among the best the church has had. He was appointed in April, 1900.

In 1841 the Presbyterians dissolved their connection with the Greenbush Church at Blauvelt and became a separate organization. Rev. Jared Dewing, who had been their pastor seven years, still remained with the Greenbush church, while the congregation here called as pastor Rev. Charles M. Oakley, and he remained but two years. During this time the membership, which started with 75, reached 120 or more. The next pastor was Rev. Joseph Penny, who remained about three and a half years, and was followed by Rev. Isaac S. Davison, in 1847. After a pastorate of five years, at a salary of \$500 and parsonage, he was succeeded by Rev. Joseph Cory, whose salary was raised to \$600. Mr. Davison is mentioned as an "excellent preacher, a faithful pastor and a sincere Christian." For a period of fourteen years the Rev. Joseph Cory occupied the pulpit. He was a good pastor and had many friends; but for a season during these years the church did not prosper as it should, owing to the bitterness of political strife then agitating the country and which entered into and divided many churches. In 1867 the Presbytery dissolved the relations between Mr. Cory and the church, and a call was soon after extended to Rev. Francis L. Patton. Dr. Patton was then a young man of 26, having been a pastor but two years. He remained about three years and a half, during which time he improved rapidly and eventually reached the high goal of his ambition—the Presidency of Princeton University. The career of Dr. Patton is too well known to require further mention on these pages, but we will give a personal description of him, as found in the history of the great heresy trial of Prof. Swing, when Dr. Patton was spoken of as the "modern Calvin." It says: "He is every iota the bookman, the introspective student. He is young—not over 35 years of age; his features are regular and his form erect" . . . "In conversation he is witty, quick and pleasant." . . . "His use of language is superb and his delivery clear, distinct and elegant." . . . "When he becomes worked up in his

theme he speaks with a fluency and earnest vehemence that is remarkable and commands attention from all within the sound of his voice." Rev. Charles L. Thompson, D. D., gives the following pen picture of him: "A tall, slender, straight young man, looks directly at you through a pair of spectacles, and announces his text in clear, positive tones, that at once suggests deep convictions. He is so very thin he looks uncomfortably frail, but he comes down on his text with a solid emphasis that indicates no disposition to spare the flesh. He has no notes. There is no introduction to his sermon. He plunges straight into the argument in phrases far enough from stilted, and in clear-cut prepositions which are far enough from dullness. His tone is conversational. His manner is exceedingly frank and manly and his process of thought logical and unhalting." . . . "The thoughts succeed each other in such bright movement no attention can flag, and when he suddenly closes you realize that you have got quite a body of divinity to meditate upon."

Dr. Patton's successor was Rev. Andrew McElroy Wylie, who came at a salary of \$2,000, and the parsonage was enlarged to accommodate him. He had been an Episcopal minister for twelve years previous to his coming to Nyack. He is described as a man of strong intellect and was possessed of extensive knowledge, and his sermons were instructive and generally extemporaneously delivered. His death occurred at Newton, Pa., in the 60th year of his age.

Mr. Wylie resigned in 1877, and Rev. George H. Wallace was ordained and installed in October, 1877. He remained about three years and a half, during which time, by his activity in pastoral work, the congregation grew larger than ever before. As a pulpit orator he was fluent and interesting and a general favorite among the younger portion of the congregation. His salary was \$1,200 and the use of the parsonage.

Rev. John Elway Lloyd came in 1880 and remained seven years. He was a native of Wales and formerly preached to a Welsh congregation in New York city. He was an able preacher and profound scholar. His sermons were of a high order and without exception extemporaneous; and the large congregations which attended during his predecessor's term were maintained and increased during his seven years stay. He was followed by Rev. Thomas McBride Nichols, a young

graduate of Union College, who came in 1889, and Rev. J. A. Davis, in 1893.

The celebrated Rev. Samuel D. Burchard supplied the pulpit three months during 1889, in the interval between the call to Mr. Nichols and the time for him to begin his pastorate. Mr. Nichols resigned in 1893, after having cleared the church from a heavy debt and burned the mortgage. Dr. Burchard was one of the most powerful preachers of his time, and although far advanced in years while here, he had not lost much of his eloquence and vigor. He had occupied the pulpit many times during the past seven years previous to this supply, and already seemed as familiar a form as if he had been a regular pastor.

On the 24th of September, 1897, the church met with a great loss in the sudden death of Rev. John A. Davis. Differing from all the previous pastors of the church, he was an evangelist and an untiring worker, not only among his own congregation, but throughout the town, and his death was a loss to the whole community. As a preacher he was possessed of that magnetic power which attracts people and holds their closest attention. He was always extemporaneous, and his words were simple, yet they gave evidence of a mind well stored with knowledge; and his familiarity with all branches of learning and political events of the time was surprising. Mr. Davis had been a missionary to China and was author of several books pertaining to that country, the best known of which was "The Young Mandarin."

The church building, which had been enlarged in 1872, was again enlarged in 1899, and almost wholly made new under the lead of Rev. Robert H. Herron, who became pastor the previous year.

The Ruling Elders of this church since its organization have been as follows: Robert Hart, John VanHouten, Jr., Garret Tallman, Tunis Smith, Daniel Brady, Peter A. Smith, Dr. William Johnson, John J. Ackerson, Daniel M. Clark, Francis Powley, T. DePew Tallman, Isaac Dutcher, Daniel D. Demarest; William H. Jersey, Seth B. Cole, Samuel H. Doughty, Henry C. Brown, George G. DeWitt, Merritt E. Sawyer, O. R. Borthwick, Charles E. Smith, M. Watson DeBaun, Victor Ackerman, Edmund Hyatt, John A. Sickles, Eugene F. Perry, William Keenholts and Louis L. Robbins.

Sunday schools, too, have existed from an early date, as the effective auxiliaries of the churches. Miss Sally Hart, daughter of Robert

Hart, the Presbyterian Elder, was the pioneer in Sunday school work. She started the little class at her home, or in the little schoolhouse near the outlet of Voorhis' brook, Piermont avenue, and from that the Presbyterian Sunday school has continued until now. It was somewhere about the time the stone church was built. Other Sunday schools followed and the existence of the churches to-day is owing to these nurseries of religious thought.

The fourth church established in Nyack was the Baptist. After several failures they at last, in 1854, succeeded in maintaining an organization by the efforts of Rev. Joseph W. Griffith. A society was formed with thirteen members and meetings were held in Union Hall, continuing for some time until the church was built, in 1856. The lot had been previously purchased by Rev. J. W. Griffith, William Miller, John V. Burr, William Enemy, Jeremiah Youmans and A. P. Campbell. The first pastor was Rev. G. P. Martin. He was followed in 1857 by Rev. T. T. Devan, an eloquent preacher, who held the position for over five years. The third pastor was Rev. B. H. Benton, who stayed a year and a half. Then came Rev. Frederick Greaves, in 1865, remaining two years. He was a very earnest preacher and worker, and the membership greatly increased during that period. Next came Rev. J. W. Frazer, in 1867, and R. T. Middleditch, in 1868. In 1868 Dominic Greaves returned and preached until 1873, which was the only instance where a pastor returned to a Nyack church after he had once left it. Mr. Greaves, a few years afterwards, left the Baptist denomination and entered the Episcopal, which is also the only instance of its kind in Nyack church history up to that date. The next pastors were Rev. N. B. Thompson, 1873; Rev. J. Kennard Wilson, 1876; Rev. J. G. Shrive, 1877.

During these years the church but slowly grew, owing to the lack of finances, yet many able clergymen served its pulpit. In 1879, however, it awoke from its sleep as if by magic. Rev. Josiah H. Gunning, M. D., accepted the call to become its pastor, and during the following three years the congregation became too large to be accommodated in the small church building. A new brick edifice was then erected. Never before in the history of Nyack had such success attended any preacher. A large addition to the membership roll had also been

secured, which, strange to say, was even surpassed by Dr. Gunning's successor during the same length of time.

After remaining about three years, Dr. Gunning resigned and the congregation extended a call to Rev. John L. Campbell, of Canada. This venture was only on the uncertainties of the judgment of one who gave him a "high recommendation," but it was a lucky venture, for the new pastor proved to be one of the most eloquent of all Nyack's pulpit orators and an excellent pastor. After remaining about as long as Dr. Gunning, he was called to the Lexington Avenue Church, New York city. The succeeding pastors were: Rev. Eugene E. Thomas, 1888; Rev. J. B. McCullough, 1889; Rev. Edwin M. Saunier, 1892; Rev. S. J. Skevington, 1900.

As Nyack village grew in population new churches were organized, until at the present time almost every denomination is represented. In 1860 the African M. E. Church was built for the colored people, through the assistance of John W. Towt and George Green, two of Nyack's wealthiest citizens. It stood on Burd street and a new and larger church was afterwards built, a short distance higher up. A Sunday school was also started about this time in Lower Nyack by Mrs. Hester Onderdonk, and in 1869 a stone chapel, costing \$5,000, was dedicated and a union Sunday school has since been held there, with occasional preaching services. It is known as the Wayside Chapel. In 1861 the first Episcopal services were held in Nyack regularly, and in 1862 Grace Chapel was built through the efforts of Rev. Franklin Babbitt, the first rector of the parish. About the same time Universalist meetings were held in Nyack and some time after 1870 a frame building was finished for them on Broadway. Their congregation has always remained small. The Rev. J. Riley Johnson served them a much longer time than any of the other pastors. He resigned in 1901, but continues to supply the pulpit.

The Methodists, about in 1875, adopted the name of "St. Paul's M. E." They also bought a lot on Broadway for a new church. The foundation was built, but the society was unable to continue the work and it was sold. Some time later they purchased the property corner of Broadway and Division avenue and erected a chapel, with the expectation of having a new church on the corner at some future time.

The Episcopalians, after using their chapel several years, built a fine new stone church on the grounds corner of First avenue and

Franklin street, leaving the tower unfinished. Their motto was, "Pay as you go along," which other societies might do well to imitate. Their idea was to complete the tower at some future day and place chimes therein. At this time (1902) Rev. Franklin Babbitt is still the rector. He has had assistants, among whom were: Revs. Charles Seymour, F. Greaves and Ralph Pomeroy.

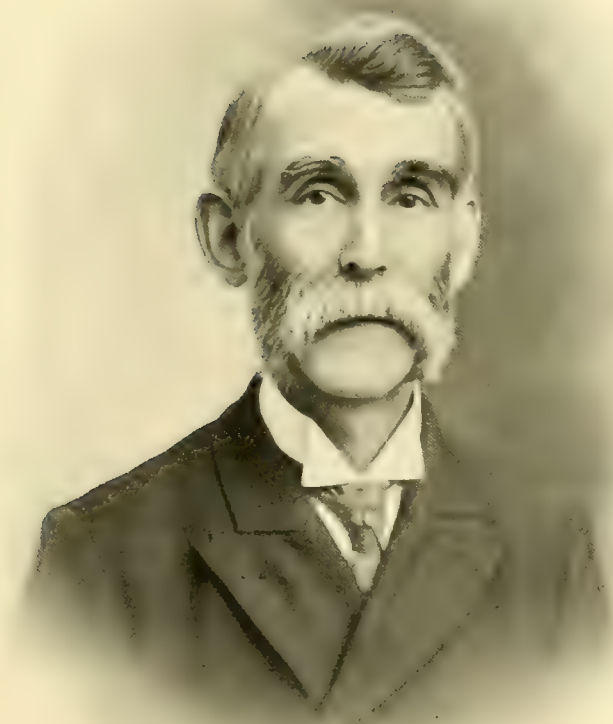
The German Presbyterians were the seventh religious society to organize. They held meetings for some time under the lead of Rev. A. Shabehorn, and their church on Franklin street, was built in 1889. Their pastors have been Rev. A. Shabehorn; Gustave Schumaker, 1888; Albert Wirth, 1891; A. Pape, 1893. Their present pastor is Rev. J. Jenson.

A second church society by the colored people, called the Pilgrim Baptist Church, has been struggling for existence a long time with hopes of ultimate success. They meet in a room above a blacksmith shop on Main street.

The German Lutherans, under charge of Rev. Mr. Franks, started meetings here soon after the German Presbyterians commenced, and a small house of worship was dedicated in 1898. It stands on Park street. Rev. H. F. R. Steeholz is the minister in charge.

In 1901 a Congregational Church was formed in Central Nyack by the society of the "West Nyack Chapel" Sunday school, after having regular supplies from among the clergy of the village for a long time. This action was taken by reason of the indisposition of the various pastors to continue the work since the death of Rev. J. A. Davis. The first temporary pastor was Rev. C. B. MacDuffee, and a permanent pastor was secured in the person of Rev. H. A. G. Abbe.

At the present time (1902) there are eleven societies in Nyack having buildings of their own and sustaining pastors; there are also two church societies not owning houses, but having occasional services; and two evangelical Sunday schools having buildings of their own. There is also the Christian and Missionary Alliance, with its Institute, annual conventions, and gospel meetings in the village. The Salvation Army, too, has sojourned in the place. Truly, Nyack is a village of churches.



ROBERT H. FENTON.

CHAPTER XVIII.

TOWN OF CLARKSTOWN.

By Robert H. Fenton.

The town of Clarkstown was formed from Haverstraw on March 18, 1791. It occupies the east central part of the county and contains about thirty-six square miles, or 24,091 acres, nearly all tillable land, with a water front on the Hudson of over five miles. It is bounded on the north by Haverstraw township; on the east by the Hudson river; on the south by Orangetown, and on the west by Ramapo. The surface of the town is hilly for the most part with some swamp lands and streams of water winding through and emptying into the Hackensack river below and in the Sparkill creek at Piermont. The Hackensack river has its main source in Rockland Lake, in this township, and gradually widens as it flows south, being fed by smaller streams. The principal villages are West Nyack, Upper Nyack, Central Nyack, Nanuet, New City, Congers and Rockland Lake. There are also a number of smaller villages, hamlets and neighborhoods known as Valley Cottage, Bardonia, Strawtown, Centenary, Quasbec, the Dutch Factory, Mosestown and Snedeker's Landing.

A small portion of the township seems geographically set apart from the rest, and that is the incorporated district of Upper Nyack, being bounded on the west by the mountains that wind around from Verdreitege toward the Nyack turnpike and lying along the river. This extends about one mile and a half in length and half a mile back from the shore. Sheltered from the cold winds of winter the Nyack Indians, a small chieftaincy akin to the Tappan tribe at the time of the discovery, had their "long house," or village, here, while their trails led in various directions, and particularly along the bank of the river, south. The Indians have also left signs in other parts of Clarkstown of their occupancy, by the stone implements found on the sand hills along the Hackensack and elsewhere. These relics have mostly been gathered and yet, no doubt, there are many still to be found hidden under the soil. They consist of stone axes, tomihawks, corn-crackers, hammer stones, scrapers,

pieces of pottery, fragments of ceremonial stones, club balls, spear and arrow heads, and numberless other stones which puzzle experts as to the particular use for which they were fashioned.

The town derives its name from a family of the old settlers who came within its present limits in the earliest years of the white men's permanent occupancy. These were three brothers of the de Clerque family—Jacob, Daniel and Peter—who came to this country from France and settled in New Holland (now New York city) in about the year 1625 or 1630. The three brothers came to this county in 1686 and purchased land which is now a large part of Clarkstown. It is recorded that a party of five, among whom was Daniel DeClark, purchased the lower part of the Kakiat patent. In 1716 DeClark's property was divided and part of it sold. At one of these sales, held in 1764, the property is described as being in Clarkstown. This is the earliest record found in which the name of Clarkstown appears.

The orthography of the family name gradually changed with each succeeding generation. First from de Clerque, which is pure French, to De Clerek; then to De Clark, and in later years some of the descendants left off the De altogether and brought it down to the plain and simple name of Clark.

Several of the early land grants covered portions of Clarkstown. One was the extensive Kakiat patent; another the Quaasbeck or Pond patent, and the Lancaster Symes tract, and besides these more extensive ones, others of the Holland pioneers extended their possessions into Clarkstown. The second purchase by Harmaunus Dows reached over the hills, and so did the real estate ventures of Capt. Cornelison Claessen Kuyper, the son of Claus Jansen, who bought the first land in Nyack.

The descendants of the Clark family were not very numerous thereafter and other names prevailed throughout the township. In about the year 1800 the Smiths, who were descendants of Lammert Arientse, took the lead of any others in number; next to these came the Blauvelts, whose ancestors spelled their name Gerritson when they landed, and the Tallmans. The Blauvelts and the Tallmans were about even in number. The name of Onderdonk ranked fourth, closely followed by the Polhemus' and the Vanderbilts. The names of Stevens, or Stephens, and Van Houten came next in order.

Among the most prominent persons who have lived in Clarkstown within the last half century were Hon. Hugh Maxwell, Collector of the Port, whose daughter eloped with Gen. Phil. Kearney; Hon. Abram P. Stephens, Rockland's only Member of Congress for many years; Hon. Moses G. Leonard, of the Knickerbocker Ice Co.; Hon. Abram B. Conger, State Senator; Col. Edward Pye, County Judge, killed at battle of Cold Harbor; John McGinnis, the founder of Congers; William F. Fraser, County Judge, and Capt. Wilson Defendorf, who served in the Rebellion. In earlier times Sheriff Ebenezer Wood was a leading and useful citizen of the town for many years; and Daniel Harmanus Blauvelt, whose religious zeal and original methods as an evangelist are so well described in Dr. Cole's genealogical record. These all belong to the past. Of the more notable citizens of a later date we shall not attempt to name lest many omissions may be made, unintentionally, of those who feel they deserve a place in the list. Suffice to say the families of Demarest, Haring, Hutton, Bogert, Blauvelt and DeBevoise are among those who have produced many prominent and useful citizens and public officials.

During the last fifty years the Germans have established themselves throughout Clarkstown in large numbers. The most noteworthy of those from Northern Europe have been Gen. Louis Blenker, who served in the Rebellion; Major Christian Deitszh, Florent Verdin, a native of France; Rudolph Lexow, a journalist, and his son, Hon. Clarence Lexow.

In the various wars in which our nation has been engaged—the Revolution, the war of 1812, the great Rebellion and the Spanish-American war—the town of Clarkstown has always furnished her just proportion of recruits, not alone in response to the call to duty, but with patriotic zeal and enthusiasm, and in sacrifice, as the memorial records show. Clarkstown during the Revolution was so situated as to escape the more stirring scenes enacted in the adjoining towns. The most important events were the passing of American troops back and forth. Along the old King's Highway, between Haverstraw and Tappan, are the foot-prints of great men—from Washington and Lafayette down to those local heroes whose homes were hereabouts, and who were constantly on the alert for the advance of British forces and the doings of the more detestable Tories infesting the lower part of the county. There were a number of skirmishes in various parts, several of which were on the river

front at Upper Nyack and Rockland Lake, in which the British were beaten off in their attempts to land for the purpose of pillage.

In the passing of troops along the King's Highway through the town there was one scene that invites particular notice. It was when the unfortunate Major Andre, in the custody of a squad of cavalry, was riding from Stony Point to Tappan. He had just been questioning Major Tallmage as to what would be done with him as a prisoner, and it had been intimated to him that his fate would be that of a spy. No wonder then that his heart sank and his thoughts were troubled as he journeyed silently along the remainder of the route and that he failed to appreciate the glories of the early autumn as the golden leaves were beginning to blend with the amaranth of the surrounding landscape.

During these years of the Revolution the people were in constant fear of depredations from the enemy. Various incidents might be told of raids in which cattle were driven off, and where patriots unable to offer resistance were carried away prisoners. On one of these occasions, Dec. 14, 1777, a party from an armed vessel landed at Slaughter's Landing (Rockland Lake) and came as far as "Snedeker's pond" before a sufficient force could be brought together to drive them back. They plundered the house of Abraham Thew and carried him away prisoner with several others; and also drove away some cattle, which they killed on the shore and took out to the vessel.

Another incident relates to Adrian Onderdonk, who lived a mile north of Nanuet, (on the place owned later by his great-grandson, John N. Gesner). One day while home Mr. Onderdonk saw a troop of cavalry riding rapidly down the road towards his house. They were clothed in that kind of suit introduced by Cromwell into the English army, and so, of course, they were supposed to be a squad of British "red coats." Onderdonk did not stop to risk capture but darted out of the door and sped with hot haste down to the swamp west of the house. The horsemen came up to the barnyard gate, which was fastened by a rope. The leader drew his sword and cut it and the gate swung open and they rode in. "Who lives here?" cried a gruff voice. Mrs. Onderdonk came out and told them. "Who was that man we saw running away just now?" the leader asked. "That was my husband," replied the woman. "Is he for the King's cause or a rebel?" continued the leader. "He is for his country's liberties," exclaimed Mrs. Onderdonk, fearlessly. "Then what did

he want to run for," said the leader, with an oath to emphasize his words, and the party rode away as fast as they had come. It proved to be a number of patriots clad in uniforms captured from the British.

Onderdonk afterward participated in the Battle of Stony Point, and while absent his barn was visited by Tories, who stole harness and other articles.

In the war of 1812 the militia law was such that every able bodied man belonged to that branch of service; and Clarkstown, therefore, furnished a larger number for defense according to its population, than in any other war. The company to which they belonged was commanded by Captain Jacob I. Blauvelt, of the 83rd Regiment, N. G. S. M. This company, numbering seventy-one men, met at Blauveltville, September 3rd, 1814, and marched to Piermont, where they embarked on a sloop for New York. They passed most of their time in camp at Harlem Heights, until they were discharged, November 29th, 1814.

When the war with Mexico commenced a company of cavalry was formed, in which this town took a leading part. It was known as the "Rockland County Rangers." Its first officers were: Captain, Isaac Pye; First Lieutenant, Charles M. Oblenis; Second Lieutenant, Edward Pye. Soon afterwards Edward Pye became Colonel of the 17th Regiment, to which the Rangers belonged; Isaac Pye, Major, and Charles M. Oblenis, Captain of the Rangers. Thus officered the regiment remained until the commencement of the Rebellion. Captain Oblenis afterwards enlisted in the Fifth Cavalry in New York city, and served in Virginia.

Of those who served in the Rebellion, the following list will give, as near as can be ascertained, the names of residents of Clarkstown who volunteered and the regiments in which they joined. This record does not comprise those who came in the town subsequently, having enlisted elsewhere, and have since claimed residence here:

In the 17th N. Y. Volunteers—Towt J. Waldron, Edgar N. Waldron, Carroll S. Waldron, Henry M. Wood, George Hyer, Irving D. Smith, Daniel Trumper.

In the 6th N. Y. Heavy Artillery—Jacob E. Youmans, James K. Locke, Andrew Neilor, J. W. Moore, George H. Phillips, George B. Sutherland, Charles Meissner, Jr., William Campbell, William Dickey, William H. Hartwick.

In the 95th N. Y. Volunteers—Mansfield Smith, William H. Blauvelt, James Cornelison, Peter D. Bevoise, William Cornelison, John Phillips, Jacob J. Rose, Garret Rose, Jacob Van Orden, John H. Smith, Richard Smith.

In the 48th N. Y. Volunteers—Abram M. Rose, William F. Wood, Newton Sears, Samuel A. Youmans, David Bogert, Benjamin Sears, John Sears.

In the 127th N. Y. Volunteers—William Holliday, John D. Oakley, Charles Rodgers, James Tompkins.

In the 34th N. J. Volunteers—Francis Meissner.

In the 128th N. Y. Volunteers—William Conlon, James H. Onderdonk, Edwin J. Blauvelt, Isaac W. Blauvelt, Isaac E. Pye, Richard M. S. Tallman.

In the 124th N. Y. Volunteers—John Barnes.

In the 12th N. Y. Volunteers—David I. Brown.

In the 9th N. Y. Volunteers—John L. Snediker.

In the 25th R. I. Volunteers—William Brown (colored).

In the 3rd Cavalry—John L. Brown.

In the 14th R. I. Volunteers—Richard Cisco (colored), John N. Miller (colored).

In the 13th Heavy Artillery—James Hill.

In the 26th N. Y. Volunteers—Benjamin Samuels (colored), Samuel Gulfield (colored).

In the 1st Cavalry—James Vanderbilt.

In the 8th N. Y. Volunteers—Louis Blenker, Colonel, and afterwards Brigadier-General.

In 1st Regiment Sharpshooters—DePew R. Swartwout.

In 33rd N. J. Volunteers—Dominick Babcock.

In the 91st N. Y. Volunteers—Charles F. Ingalls.

In the 135th N. Y. Volunteers—Romaine H. Smith.

In the Navy—Charles De Bevoise, Sylvester Gesner, Jr., James M. Paul.

In other regiments or service—Leonard Felter, John W. Locke.

The above list shows sixty-six names, but we do not claim it is perfect. According to the State census, the town furnished seventy-four men for the Rebellion, of whom the greatest number enlisting in any regiment was in the 6th N. Y. Heavy Artillery. Another record gives

eighty-three as the number from Clarkstown. As near as can be determined, there were six killed, five wounded and seven died from wounds or illness. The killed were Samuel A. Youmans, William Dickey, William H. Hartwick, Leonard Felter, William Halley and Benjamin Sears.

In the history of those who served in the Rebellion from Clarkstown the record of a large number of brothers from one family is worthy of particular mention. There were four Waldrons who went to fight for their country, and five Rose brothers, but the record of the Sears brothers takes the lead, as they were six in number, and though their places of enlistment were not all in Clarkstown, this town claims in them to have produced the greatest number anywhere in the country. Their names were: Benjamin, Frank, Moses, Newton, James and John.

As but few volunteers were required during the Spanish-American War out of a population the size of Clarkstown, only a few enlisted. Among those who were in service were: Rudolph Hauserman (in regular army), James G. Conklin and Edward Green.

To get at the names more completely of the early free-holders of Clarkstown, we here present the assessment roll for the year 1787. An act of the Legislature for the raising of moneys by tax was passed April 11th, 1787, and warrants were given to Major John Smith for the collection of the same in the "district of Clarkstown," by the Supervisors of Haverstraw precinct: David Pye, W. Thompson and John H. Hogenkamp:

Inhabitants.	Real Estate		Persn'l Estate.		State Tax.			County Tax.		
	£		£	s.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Resolvert R. Van Houten...	200		72	15	2	5	6	0	11	10
Peter Blauvelt.....	200		79	5	2	6	6	0	12	1
Claus V. John Van Houten..	180		76	10	2	2	11	0	11	2
Roelif Van Houten.....	80		76	10	0	13	4	0	3	5½
Peter Stevense.....	158		88	10	2	1	0	0	10	8
Abraham Stevense	52		10	15	0	10	6	0	2	8½
Abram DePew.....	195		92	15	2	7	10	0	12	5
Johanias DePew.....			23	10	0	3	11	0	1	0
Philip Keasler.....	90		23	10	0	18	10	0	4	10½
Abraham Garrison, Jr.....	50		21	5	0	11	10	0	3	1
Eli Eagleton.....	50		6	10	0	9	5	0	2	5

HISTORY OF ROCKLAND COUNTY

Inhabitants.	Real Estate.			Persn'l Estate.			State Tax.			County Tax.		
	£	£	s.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Major John Smith.....	250	133	15	3	4	0	0	16	8			
William Bell.....		3	15	0	0	8	0	0	2			
William Ackerman.....		22	10	0	3	9	0	0	11½			
Daniel Vansickles.....		12	10	0	2	1	0	0	6½			
Jacob Secaur.....		3	10	0	0	6	0	0	1½			
Thomas Howard.....		9	10	0	1	6	0	0	4½			
Harmanus Kaesler.....		17	5	0	2	10	0	0	8½			
William Kempe.....		8	5	0	1	4	0	0	4			
Benjamin Knapp.....		6	5	0	1	0	0	0	3			
Joseph Knapp.....		19	5	0	3	2	0	0	10			
Johanas Springsteel.....		25	5	0	4	2	0	1	1			
Gilbert Wilson.....	25	22		0	7	10	0	2	0			
Samuel Springsteel.....	25	18	5	0	7	2	0	1	10			
Adrian Onderdonk.....	151	48	5	1	13	2	0	8	7½			
John Thew.....	210	81	15	2	8	8	0	12	8			
Thunis Snedeker.....	250	123	5	3	2	2	0	16	2			
Samuel Yeomans.....	60	50	5	0	18	4	0	4	9			
Garret Snedeker.....	270	59	5	2	14	10	0	14	3			
Abraham Storm.....		7	5	0	1	2	0	0	3½			
Johanas DeVries.....	270	168	10	2	16	5	0	14	8			
John DeGraw.....		21	5	0	3	6	0	0	10½			
Theodorus Snedeker.....	310	108	5	3	9	8	0	18	0			
Derick Swartwout.....	494	55	5	4	11	6	1	3	9			
James Paul.....		10	10	0	1	9	0	0	5½			
Abraham Thew.....	500	285	10	6	10	11	1	14	0			
Conradt Gavestine.....		3	10	0	0	6	0	0	1½			
Captain John Felter.....		3	10	0	0	6	0	0	1½			
Joseph DeClark.....	115	34	15	1	5	0	0	6	6			
Uriah Hoffman.....	40	18	10	0	9	9	0	2	6			
William Felter, Jr.....	80	14	15	0	15	10	0	4	2			
Uriah Perry.....		26	10	0	4	5	0	1	1½			
William Hoffman.....	60	29	10	0	14	11	0	3	10			
Elizabeth Hoffman, widow...	60	22	10	0	13	9	0	3	7			
Nathaniel Barmore.....	75	14	10	0	14	10	0	3	10			
John Coleman.....	280	90	10	2	5	0	0	11	8½			

TOWN OF CLARKSTOWN.

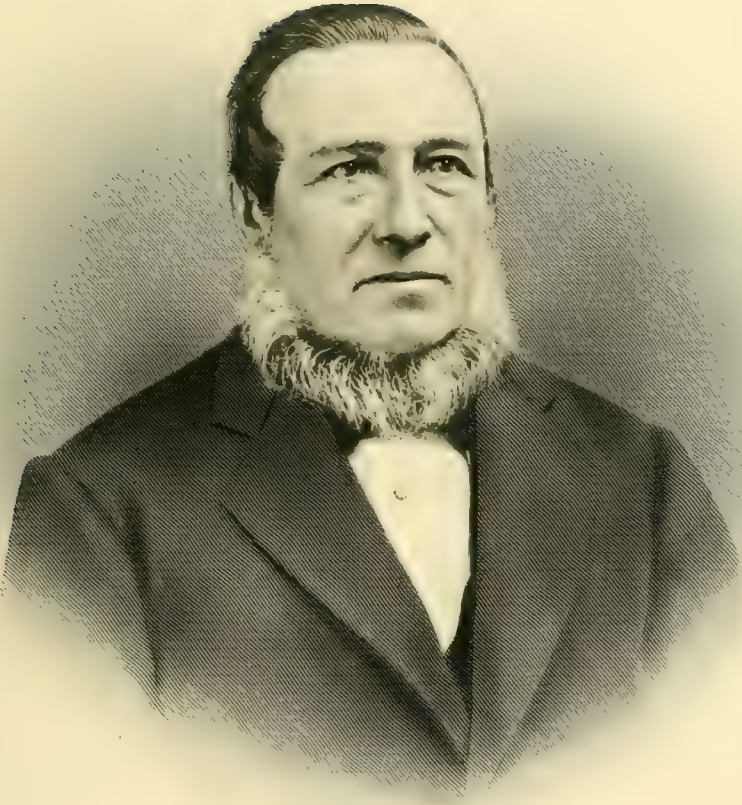
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Inhabitants.	Real Estate.		Persn'l Estate.		State Tax.			County Tax.		
	£		£	s.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Johanas Felter.....	50		28	5	0	13	0	0	3	5½
Johanius Bamson	160		50	15	1	15	2	0	9	1½
Derick Vanderbelt.....	144		42	15	1	11	0	0	8	1
John Bamson.....	100		30	5	1	1	8	0	5	7½
Peter Felter.....	75		26	10	0	16	11	0	4	4½
Titus Polhemus.....	210		50	10	2	4	10	0	11	8
Peter Snyder.....	60		31	15	0	15	4	0	3	11½
Abraham J. Polhemus.....			31	15	0	5	4	0	1	4½
Jacob Polhemus.....	210		27	10	1	19	7	0	10	3
Abraham Blauvelt.....	148		35	15	1	10	8	0	8	0
Samuel Yeomans, Jr.....			32	15	0	5	6	0	1	5½
John Town, Jr.....			11	5	0	1	10	0	0	5½
John Town.....	74		28	5	0	17	0	0	4	5
George Douglas.....			3	5	0	0	6	0	0	1½
John Johnston.....	115		12	15	1	1	4	0	5	6½
Andrew Vanorden.....			16	15	0	2	8	0	0	8
Aury Campbell.....	65		21	5	0	14	4	0	3	8½
Abraham J. Polhemus.....	80		31	5	0	18	6	0	4	9½
Hugh Gillan.....			7	5	0	1	2	0	0	3½
Geirtre Mannel, widow.....	114		33	5	1	4	6	0	6	4½
Casparus Westervelt.....	135		35	5	1	8	4	0	7	4½
Albert Stevense.....	190		49	10	1	19	11	0	10	5
Derukye Snyder.....	6		3	10	0	1	6	0	0	4½
Jacob Counselor.....			3	10	0	0	6	0	0	1½
Abraham Snyder.....	40		28	15	0	11	6	0	2	5½
Barbary Snyder.....	170		10	5	1	10	0	0	7	9½
Ebenezer H. Wood.....			12	5	0	2	0	0	0	6
John Ryder.....	600	143	5		6	3	10	1	12	8
Robert Ryder.....	62		55	15	0	19	8	0	5	1
Doctor John Farrand.....	130		64	15	1	12	4	0	8	5
Garret Myer.....	90		31	15	1	0	4	0	5	3½
William Felter.....	150		46	15	1	12	8	0	8	6
Hendrick Vanorden.....	6		18	10	0	4	1	0	1	1
Richard Fillpot.....	4				0	0	8	0	0	2
Major John L. Smith.....	184		59	10	2	0	6	0	10	6½

Inhabitants.	Real Estate.	Persn'l Estate.	State Tax.	County Tax.
	£	£ s.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Captain Aury Smith.....	174	97 10	2 5 2	0 11 9
Jeremiah Williamson	110	93 5	1 13 10	0 8 9
Henry Palmer.....	168	28 15	1 12 10	0 8 6½
Benjamin Knapp.....	128	15 15	1 3 10	0 5 3
Garret Sarvant.....	100	39 10	1 3 3	0 6 1
Harmanus Tolman.....	100	77 10	1 9 6	0 7 8
Thunis H. Tolman.....	90		0 15 0	0 3 10½
Elinor Myer, widow.....	40	21 15	0 10 4	0 2 8
John Myer.....	40	16 15	0 9 4	0 2 5
Abraham Tolman.....	120	42 15	1 7 2	0 7 0
Thunis Tolman.....	205	39 5	2 0 8	0 10 7
Thunis Tolman, Jr.....	110	27 10	1 2 11	0 6 0
Peter Tolman.....	60	42 10	0 13 8	0 3 6½
Joseph Blauvelt.....	5		0 0 10	0 0 2½
Garret Smith.....	10		0 1 8	0 0 5
Isaac Smith.....	31		0 5 2	0 1 4
Cornelius Blauvelt.....	20		0 3 4	0 0 10
Johanias Vandolison.....	60		0 10 0	0 2 7
Harna D. Tolman.....	190	62 10	2 1 8	0 10 10
John Tolman.....	230	53 15	2 7 4	0 12 4
Dowe Tolman.....	230	45 5	2 5 10	0 11 11
Thunis D. Tolman.....	82	37 15	1 0 0	0 5 2
Dowe J. Tolman.....		13 15	0 2 4	0 0 7
Gershom Jacobs.....	2	3 15	0 0 10	0 0 2½
Joshua Brush.....		28 15	0 4 8	0 1 2½
Hugh Fathergill.....	11	9 15	0 3 4	0 0 10
Aurt Polhemus.....	265	96 5	3 0 2	0 15 8
Isaac Dutcher.....	35	18 10	0 9 0	0 2 4
Daniel Martine.....	350	123 10	3 18 10	1 0 6
Jacob Tinkie	105	36 10	1 3 6	0 6 1
Captain Derick Vanderbelt..	142	30 10	1 8 9	0 7 6
Derick Vanderbelt, Jr.....	50	19 10	0 11 6	0 2 11½
Peter Oblenus.....	107	48 10	1 5 11	0 6 8½
Mary Myer, widow.....	111	17 10	1 1 4	0 5 6½
Theodorus Polhemus.....	240	93 10	2 15 7	0 14 5

Inhabitants.	Real Estate.		Persn'l Estate.	State Tax.			County Tax.		
	£	s.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Theodorus Polhemus, Jr.....			29 10	0	4	10	0	1	3
Jacob Polhemus.....			6 10	0	1	0	0	0	3
Aurt Ramsen.....	160		41 10	1	13	7	0	8	8½
Hendrick Oblenus.....	117		91 15	1	14	10	0	9	0
Phillip Demerest.....	35		12 15	0	8	0	0	2	1
Garret Oblenus.....	65		25 15	0	15	2	0	4	11
Andros VanOrden.....	150		73 5	1	17	2	0	5	6
Cornelius Vervelen.....			17 5	0	2	10	0	0	8½
Jacobus Turnure.....	140		116 5	2	2	8	0	11	10
Hendrick Turnure.....	158		126 5	2	7	4	0	12	3½
John Hutton.....			14 5	0	2	4	0	0	7
Captain Hendrick Turnure..	180		115 10	2	9	3	0	12	9½
Johanas Sickles.....	16			0	2	8	0	0	8
James Vandolison.....			55 15	0	9	4	0	2	5
Michael Turnure.....	160		103 15	2	4	0	0	11	5½
Johanas Polhemus	110		32 5	1	3	8	0	6	1½
Jacob Whitman.....	110		52 5	1	2	6	0	11	0
Jacobus J. DeClark.....	250		61 5	2	11	10	0	13	5½
Abraham Jones.....			12 5	0	2	0	0	0	6
Johanas Turnure.....	138		37 15	1	9	4	0	7	7½
Jacobus D. DeClarke.....	250		61 15	2	12	0	0	13	6
George Van Nostrandt.....	169		43 15	1	15	4	0	9	2
Adrian Onderdonk.....	62		24 15	0	14	4	0	3	5½
Thomas Blauvelt, Esq.....	216		46 15	2	3	8	0	11	4½
Rem Onderdonk			15 15	0	2	8	0	0	8
Dowe Vanderbelt.....	160		23 5	1	10	6	0	7	11
Joseph Garrison.....			19 5	0	3	2	0	0	10
Johanas Onderdonk.....	60		34 5	0	15	8	0	4	0
Joseph Seaman.....	50		22 5	0	12	0	0	3	1½
Captain John Eckerson.....	85		39 15	1	0	9	0	5	5
John Martine.....	235		36 15	2	5	2	0	11	9
James Vanderbelt.....	105		35 15	1	3	6	0	6	1½
James Lakerman.....			3 15	0	0	6	0	0	1½
Johanas Vanderbelt.....	290		127 10	3	9	7	0	18	1
Johs. Vanderbelt, Jr.....	75		22 10	0	16	2	0	4	2½

Inhabitants.	Real Estate.	Persn'l Estate.	State Tax.	County Tax.
	£	£ s.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
David Pye, Esq.....	93	61 10	1 5 7	0 6 7½
Widow VanTassel.....	2	3 10	0 0 10	0 0 2½
John Zabriskie.....	11	33 10	0 7 4	0 1 10
Tobias Lowrie.....	11	9 10	0 3 4	0 0 10
Bridget Vanderbelt.....	142	43 15	1 11 0	0 8 0
Resolvent Stevense.....	185	59 15	2 1 8	0 10 10
Luke Campbell.....	12	28 15	0 6 10	0 1 9
Garret Vanchief.....	21	4 10	0 4 3	0 1 1
Stephen Campbell	69	37 5	0 17 8	0 4 7
Jacobus Blauvelt	105	75 5	1 9 10	0 7 8
Isaac Blauvelt.....	64		0 10 8	0 2 9
Cornelius Henyon.....	45	43 15	0 14 9	0 3 10
Luke DeGraw.....	40	18 15	0 9 8	0 2 6
Johanis DeGraw.....	90	20 5	0 18 4	0 4 9
Daniel DeGraw.....	90	9 10	0 16 7	0 4 3½
Cornelia Benson.....	83	32 10	0 19 3	0 5 0
Lambert Cooper	90	26 10	0 19 4	0 5 0
Thunis Trumper		6 10	1 0	0 0 3
William DeGraw.....	50	23 5	0 12 2	0 3 2
Isaac Brewer.....	30	12 15	0 7 2	0 1 10
John Blauvelt	225	72 10	2 9 7	0 12 10½
Abraham DeClark.....		6 10	0 1 0	0 0 3
Claus T. VanHouten.....	190	67 10	2 2 10	0 11 1½
Woodhull Turnure.....	75	28 15	0 17 3	0 4 6
John Jersey.....	110	37 15	1 4 8	0 6 5
Reuben Hunt.....	8	3 15	0 1 10	0 0 5
Rem Bell.....	62	27 5	0 14 10	0 3 10
Peter Hopper.....		9 10	0 1 7	0 0 5
Delia Smith, widow.....	65	26 5	0 15 2	0 3 11
James Gurorie.....	81	24 5	0 17 6	0 4 6½
John Edd. Smith.....		22 5	0 3 8	0 0 11
Edward Smith.....	155	27 10	1 10 11	0 8 0
Edward Smith, Jr.....		15 10	0 2 6	0 0 8
Stephen A. Stephens.....	85	34 10	0 19 10	0 5 2
James Smith.....	47	23 10	0 11 9	0 3 0



F. Verdin

Inhabitants.	Real Estate.		Pers'n'l Estate.	State Tax.			County Tax.		
	£	£ s.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Thomas Rossell.....	133	15 15		1	4	10	0	6	5
Abraham J. Blauvelt.....	125	40 5		1	7	6	0	7	1
John Palmer.....	155	67 5		1	17	0	0	9	7½
John Trumper.....	190	36 5		1	17	8	0	9	9½
Lambert Smith.....	64	27 5		0	15	2	0	3	11
Paulus Seaman.....	11	6 5		0	2	10	0	0	8½
Derick VanHouten.....	135	20 5		1	5	10	0	6	8½
Martinus Hogenkamp.....	125	69 5		1	12	4	0	8	5
Johantias Blauvelt, Esq.....	390	105 15		4	2	6	1	1	5
Johantias Blauvelt, Jr.....	180	58 15		1	19	8	0	10	4
Isaac Blauvelt.....	70	46 15		0	19	4	0	5	0
Abraham Blauvelt.....	176	76 5		2	2	0	0	10	11
Rynier House.....	240	36 5		2	6	0	0	11	11
Rynier House, Jr.....	42	21 10		0	10	7	0	2	8
Johantias House.....	42	21 5		0	10	6	0	2	8
Uldire Brewer.....	200	125 5		2	14	2	0	14	1
Stephen S. Stevense.....	140	45 5		1	10	10	0	8	0
Garret Onderdonk.....	300	151 10		3	15	3	0	19	6½
Garret Onderdonk.....	50			0	8	4	0	2	3
Andrew Onderdonk, Jr.....	140	50 10		1	5	8	0	6	8
William Campbell.....	130	14 10		1	4	0	0	6	3
William Campbell, Jr.....		20 10		0	3	5	0	0	10½
John Stagg.....	73	26 5		0	16	6	0	4	3½
John Voorhis.....	125	16 5		1	3	6	0	6	1½
Clare Voorhis, widow.....		11 5		0	1	11	0	0	6
John Magee.....		6 5		0	1	0	0	0	3
Abraham P. Blauvelt.....	180	62 15		2	0	6	0	10	6
Daniel Geroe.....	145	66 10		1	15	3	0	9	7
Evert Hogenkamp.....	175	36 10		1	15	3	0	9	7
Jacobus Blauvelt.....	200	60 10		2	4	4	0	11	6½
Jacob Wood.....	118	18 15		1	2	10	0	5	11
Martin Shaw.....		3 15		0	0	6	0	0	1½
Abraham Cooper.....		3 15		0	0	6	0	0	1½
Abraham VanHouten.....	150	37 15		1	11	2	0	8	1
Jacob Cole, Esq.....	88	53 15		1	3	6	0	6	1

Inhabitants.	Real Estate	Persn'l Estate.	State Tax.	County Tax.
	£	£ s.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
James Cannif.....	70	9 15	0 13 2	0 3 5
William Pool.....	70	21 15	0 15 2	0 3 11
Ebenezer Wood.....	20	24 15	0 7 6	0 1 11
Captain R. VanHouten.....	179	87 15	2 4 4	0 11 6
Hendrick Stevense.....	302	123 15	3 12 6	0 18 10½
Stephen H. Stevense.....		28 10	0 4 9	0 1 2½
William Stevense.....	45	34 15	0 13 4	0 3 5½
Harmanus Trumper.....	53	15 15	0 11 6	0 3 0
Andrew Cole.....		6 15	0 1 0	0 0 3
Captain Gt. Eekerson.....	168	47 10	1 15 11	0 9 4
Walter Smith.....	35	57 10	0 15 4	0 4 0
Henry Wood.....	13	6 10	0 3 2	0 0 10
Joseph Palmer.....	170	30 10	1 13 4	0 8 8
Jonathan Palmer.....	165	67 15	1 18 9	0 10 1
Abram Garrison, Jr.....	63	16 15	0 13 4	0 3 5½
Sarah Smith, widow.....	65	21 10	0 14 7	0 3 9.
John Smith.....	55	24 10	0 13 3	0 3 5
Stephen Smith.....	55	23 5	0 13 0	0 3 4½
Daniel Cocklatt.....	105	44 5	1 4 10	0 6 5½
Cathrine Blauvelt, widow...	200	85 15	2 7 8	0 12 4½
Johanias Blauvelt.....	190	50 5	2 0 0	0 10 5
Mary Onderdonk, widow....	135	27 5	1 7 0	0 7 0
Stephen Gurnie		6 15	0 1 2	0 0 3½
Girtche Blauvelt, widow....		6 15	0 1 2	0 0 3½
Samuel Coe.....	60	21 5	0 13 6	0 3 6
Captain Jacob Onderdonk...	185	58 10	2 0 7	0 10 6½
Estate of Jno. DeNoyelles...	350		2 18 4	0 15 2
Walter Smith, Mountr.....	10		0 1 8	0 0 5
Estate of Jno. DeNoyelles, (Mountak Lott by Short Clove)	10		0 1 8	0 0 5
Amount of this Tax List.....				357£ 2s. 9½d.

In this assessment roll it will be seen that John Ryder was the wealthiest land owner, and that Derick Swartwout came next on the list.

Mr. Swartwout is said to have owned a great many slaves, but liberated them all before his death. He lived to the age of 90 years, 8 months and 2 days.

Although slaves were held as legal property previous to 1830, they were kindly treated by their masters and many instances might be given where they led very easy lives, and many were given their freedom before the abolition act was passed in 1828 by the State Legislature.

An old bill of sale is here copied, being a relic of the early days when slaves existed in this county:

"Know all men by these presents that we, John G. Ackerman and William G. Ackerman, both of the town of Hempstead, county of Rockland, and State of New York, for and in consideration of the sum of Two hundred and sixty-two dollars and fifty cents, Current Money of this State to me in hand paid by John Smith, of the township of Clarks-town, at or before the sealing and delivery of these Presents the receipt whereof the said John & William G. Ackerman, do hereby acknowledge have granted, bargened and sold and by these Presents doth Grant, bargin and Sell unto the Said John Smith, his Executors, Administrators and Assigns, one Certain Negro Man Named Bill, to have and to hold the Said Bargened Promised unto the Said John Smith, his heirs, Executors, Administrators or Assigns, to the only proper use and Behoof of the Said John Smith, his heirs and Assigns for and during the natural Life of the Said Bill, and we, the Said John & William G. Ackerman, for ourself, our heirs and Assigns, or under the Present statute the said Bargened premises unto the Said John Smith, his heirs and Assigns, against all manner of Persons shall warrant and Defend by these Presents. In witness whereof we have hereunto Set our hands and Seals this Sixth day of September, in the Year of Our Lord one thousand Eight Hundred and Nine.

JOHN G. ACKERMAN (L. S.),

WILLIAM G. ACKERMAN (L. S.),

Executors.

Signed, Sealed in the Presents of

GEORGE CARLOUGH,

JOHN SHURBEY.

The following is another old document relating to slavery, showing the modus operandi in setting a servant free. They could not be sent away unless they were able to support themselves:

This may Certify that I, the under subscriber, Discharge Dyne A Black weomen being about the age of twenty-six year for to do for herselfe and relinquish oll my right, titel and dischearge her from all the right and Claim I held heretofore against her as being my property—if the overseers of the poor of the town of Clarkstown agree with me to execute the same. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 11 Day of May—1808.

AURY DEMAREST.

and we, the overseers of the poor of the town of Clarkstown, upon Due satisfaction made to us that the said Dyne appears to be an able bodyd weoman and not exceeding the agee above spacoped and do adgudge the said Dyne to be free and manunit her agreeable to the above Dischearge agreeable to Law in that case made and provided—Done at Clarkstown, Rocklend county, State of New York, this 11 Day of May, 1808.

JOHANNIS A. VAN HOUTEN,
PETER D. DEMAREST,

Overseers of the Poor.

The first minutes we can find of a town meeting are as follows: At a town meeting held on Thursday, the 4th day of April, 1809, by the inhabitants of Clark's Town at the New City. Present, John I. Blauvelt, Peter D. Smith, Resolvent Stephens, Justices; Peter Stephens, Moderator; John J. Wood, Town Clerk; Abram Snyder, Supervisor; John Van Houten, Richard Blanch, Dowe Tenure, Assessors; Martines J. Hogenkamp, Collector; Abraham Polhemus, James Vanderbilt, Poor-masters; Dowe D. Tallman, Abraham Cole, Hendrick Stevens, Constables; Hosmen Perry, Jacob Vanderbilt, Peter D. Demarest, Commissioners of Highways; Abraham Storms, Isaac B. Van Houten, Samuel DeBaun, Fence Viewers; Abraham Storms, Isaac B. Van Houten, Samuel DeBaun, Poundmasters.

Road Masters—Jacob Wood, John Jersey, Aurt Remsen, Peter P. Demarest, Jr., Isaac I. Blauvelt, Henry A. Snyder, John C. Van Houten, Abraham Garrison, Thomas Ackerson, Jr., Daniel Thew, Garret Smith, Henry Stephens, Jacob Myers, Abraham D. Blauvelt, Charles Benson, Dowe Tallman, John E. Smith, William House, Adrian Onder-

donk, Simon Post, John Felter, Solomon Waring, Jessie Beagle, Aury Demarest, Peter Benson, Garret S. Suediker, Theodorus Remsen.

To be raised for the poor, \$400.

Every dog that is bit by a mad dog is to be Killed Immediately; \$5 fine for every 24 hours that they live afterward, the money to go for the use of the poor.

The Town Clerk is for to get a New Book for to enter the proceedings of the Town.

To be raised for Roads and Bridges, \$70.

The Law Respecting fishing in the Ponds with Seins Passed Last year is to stand.

Entered by

JOHN J. WOOD,

Town Clerk.

The list of Town Clerks to 1902 is as follows: J. J. Wood, 1809-'12; Abram Cole, 1813; Ebenezer Wood, 1814-'20; Abram Hogenkamp, 1815-'19-'26; Jabez Wood, 1822-'27-'32; Henry R. Stephens, 1823-'25; John E. Hogenkamp, 1833-'35-'42; Peter T. Stephens, 1834; Abram E. Hogenkamp, 1843-'44; John I. Cole, 1845; Harmon Blauvelt, 1846; Isaac Blanch, 1847-'50; Abram A. Stagg, 1851-'55-'58-'59; Abram J. DeBaun, 1856-'57; Martin Knapp, 1860; T. L. DeNoyelles, 1861-'70-'75; Alfred Phillips, 1871-'73; Paul D. Spotte, 1874; Joseph DeNoyelles, 1876-'84; Edward C. Buchenau, 1890.

The following is the census of the Town of Clarkstown for one hundred years:

In 1800 Clarkstown had 1,806 inhabitants.

In 1810 Clarkstown had 1,996 inhabitants.

In 1820 Clarkstown had 1,808 inhabitants.

In 1825 Clarkstown had 2,075 inhabitants.

In 1835 Clarkstown had 2,176 inhabitants.

In 1845 Clarkstown had 2,797 inhabitants.

In 1850 Clarkstown had 3,111 inhabitants.

In 1855 Clarkstown had 3,512 inhabitants.

In 1860 Clarkstown had 3,874 inhabitants.

In 1865 Clarkstown had 4,023 inhabitants.

In 1870 Clarkstown had 4,137 inhabitants.

In 1875 Clarkstown had 4,525 inhabitants.

In 1880 Clarkstown had 4,380 inhabitants.

In 1890 Clarkstown had 5,216 inhabitants.

In 1900 Clarkstown had 6,305 inhabitants.

With the early inhabitants of Clarkstown, the leading families in particular, the Dutch Reformed Church was an important institution as a religious and social centre, and they were therefore effected greatly by the dissensions which led to the birth of the True Reformed Dutch or Seceder Church. The trouble began elsewhere, we are glad to say; but no history of Clarkstown is complete without a glimpse of the great controversy and open warfare between the two factions of the Dutch Church in America.

The trouble began in the Raritan, N. J., congregations, as far back as 1720, between the differences of *coetus* and *conferentie*. The former party advocated an independent American classis and the latter held to a continuance of the church relations with Holland. For instance, with the latter a candidate for the ministry had to go to Holland to be ordained, while with those of more advanced ideas, he need not do so, but could be qualified in this country. There were also other differences, theological and otherwise, that drew them apart.

The contest raged at its highest in 1755 at Hackensack and Schraalenburg, and finally came to a climax in this county in 1824. This controversy grew at times to bitterness and personal violence.

Two churches were established in this county. One at Monsey, where Rev. James D. Demarest, pastor, and sixty-eight of the members of the Brick Church at West New Hempstead, having seceded, started a True Dutch Reformed Church; and the other, where fifty-eight of the members of the Clarkstown Church withdrew and started a church at Nanuet. In the years preceeding 1824 many incidents of wrong actions occurred in Clarkstown among members of these churches which were in full accord with the doings of the best people of that unenlightened age. When the matter concerning Rev. James D. Demarest's being turned out of the parsonage at New Hempstead came into the court at New City, Judge Betts in his charge to the jury said: "If a whole congregation secede they may possibly take all their property with them; but if only one man adheres to the old body, all the property belongs to him." As this remark influenced the jury, it created a great deal of talk and it was said that while the Rev. C. T. Demarest was denouncing the words of the Judge, a citizen of Clarkstown "lifted

up his horse-whip and said to him, 'You hold your tongue or I will lay this over you!' " Such utterances as these were perhaps very common, but over in New Jersey the war waxed much hotter. The members of the conferentie party, such as Revs. Solomon Froligh, James D. Demarest and others of the Seceders, claimed they were persecuted. It was said that Cornelius J. Blauvelt, a student for the ministry, was shot at one morning by some one and a large buckshot penetrated his back. In some places in New Jersey church buildings were emptied of their contents, locked and barricaded and attempts at incendiarism discovered, with many legal suits in court over the outcome. But it was about the same elsewhere as in Clarkstown as to who should "hold the fort." The party of progress kept possession of the churches and the Seceders had to build anew.

Those who left the Clarkstown Church went during the pastorate of Rev. Nicholas Lansing. They were united with the Classis of Hackensack in 1824, and in 1825 a certificate of incorporation was executed, signed by John Hutton, Jacob Tallman, Jacob P. Demarest and Abram DeBaun, elders; and Nicholas Blauvelt, James DeClark, A. McCandles and Tunis Blauvelt, Deacons. Their pastors were Rev. V. S. Lansing, Rev. James D. Brinkerhoff, Rev. James D. Demarest, Rev. Abraham Van Houten and Rev. John R. Cooper. The latter came in 1865 and remained a long time, a faithful and beloved pastor. After the death of Mr. Cooper the church declined, and for the past few years the building has stood unused part of the time. One of the principal reasons that the church failed to maintain its existence was that no Sunday schools were held by the Seceders and the children were drawn away to where these "nurseries of the church" existed. In later years, seeing the necessity, they commenced holding Sunday schools in some of the churches.

WEST NYACK.

The localities which are known as Clarksville and Mont Moor, together with the village clustering around the West Shore Railroad station and the country thereabout is now known as West Nyack. Clarksville is the oldest part and contains a Reformed Church, a school house and several stores; while at the West Shore station is located the Nyack Water Works. This portion of the town was settled very early by the Dutch

farmers, and when the Revolution came, a goodly number of their descendants enlisted and fought for the cause of liberty. Clarksville was known as Oblenis' for more than one hundred years before the Nyack Turnpike was opened through it, or even was thought of.

By a deed dated December 11, 1732, Hendrick Oblenis, yeoman from Harlem, province of New York, acquired title by purchase to eight hundred acres of land in the Kakiat patent: known as lots Nos. eleven and twelve on John Alsop's map of survey, dated August 15th, 1727, extending from the north boundary line of the 1,000 acre—commonly called the expense lot—now the boundary line between Orangetown and Clarkstown; to the south boundary of Emil Kline's farm, being one and a quarter miles from south to north and one mile west from Demarest Hill—Hackensack river—including what is now Clarksville, and the farm on which the West Shore Railroad and station is built. The purchase price of this tract was eight hundred pounds, lawful currency of the province.

This place, however, was not known as "Oblenis' Corners" until 1828, when the Nyack Turnpike was completed for travel from Nyack to Suffern, passing entirely through this tract from the Hackensack bridge, west, making the "corners" as they are now.

Before the coming of the turnpike there were a number of farm houses near "Oblenis" along the highway leading from New City to Tappan and the Slote, as Piermont was called before the Erie road terminated there in 1840. These were queer and quaint old stone structures.

Hendrick Oblenis, grandson of the original purchaser of the tract, occupied the Manor house and farm, inherited by his father Petrus, who died in 1763. This house, built of rough round field stone one story, was removed by John T. Vanhouten in 1838, to make room for the brick building now in the possession of his heirs. Hendrick died in 1815. Peter, the son of Hendrick, who died in 1838, occupied the adjoining farm house. It is yet standing, though somewhat modernized. Garret, a younger son of Hendrick, inherited a large part of his grandfather's tract. The West Shore Railroad crosses the entire length of this farm. The station is on the north part across the turnpike. The home of Garret is yet standing and is in good repair and preservation. Garret died in 1839.

Philip Demarest, son-in-law to Hendrick, built a stone house near the corner about the close of the Revolution, but it has long since given place to a more modern structure. These were south of the corner. North, and near the corner, stood an old stone house, built by Auert Remsen previous to the Revolution. This was bought in 1816 by Samuel DeBaun, who put up a distillery for making whiskey—a business continued to his death—in 1831. The buildings and ground were bought by William Oblenis.

There were other buildings, north of the turnpike—that of Isaac S. Lydecker and his father Abraham; a large brown stone building removed by Isaac Pye (Major) in 1850, who had purchased the farm. Isaac Lydecker's house is still standing in good repair and is owned by Emil Kline. A short distance north is the quaint old mill and house owned at that time by Auert (Aaron) Polhemus, afterwards inherited by Dr. John Polhemus, and now owned by a New York land company. The old mill, like many others, may have passed unnoticed by future historians had it not become famous as the trial place of a witch—a story that will bear relating further on.

At the opening of the Nyack turnpike, a small store was built on the south corner, where a postoffice was established in 1835, called the "Nyack Turnpike" postoffice, and William Oblenis was appointed Postmaster. This being the third office in Clarkstown (one at the Upper Nyack landing, John Van Houten, Postmaster, and one at New City, called the Clarkstown postoffice, Abram Hogenkamp, Postmaster). The mail at that time was brought overland by way of Hackensack and Tappan to New City once a week; the prepayment of postage, like envelopes, was not known. Postage on letters varied in price according to distance. The Postmaster depended on its delivery to get his postage; nor was he disappointed either, in those days. In 1836 John L. Smith started a hat manufactory on the turnpike west of the store. Previous to this, Cornelius Yeomans had built his harness shop between the store and Smith's factory. Then came Gurnee's blacksmith shop; there had, however, been a smith's shop before, kept by Sylvester Symonds.

There is an incident connected with Symonds' shop which will bear repeating: In 1837, Martin Van Buren, President of the United States, in company with Washington Irving, while traveling through the county stopped at the "Corners" to visit Mrs. Gertrude Oblenis, an old acquaint-

ance, when the driver discovered their carriage needed some slight repairs. Their identity having become known to Sylvester, he made the most of his knowledge, and charged five dollars for a few minutes work, saying it was seldom he made the acquaintance of such distinguished people and he wanted to be remembered by them. By this parsimonious action he not only lost the confidence but the patronage of the people, and was forced to leave the place. By a chronicler of that day, we are informed that at the time of the President's visit quite a commotion was created. The farmers of the neighborhood and the few old soldiers living in the vicinity—a remnant of the Continental army who had served under General Wayne, of Stony Point fame, gathered at the "Corners" and held an impromptu meeting, to pay their respects to the Chief Magistrate and his secretary. David Pye, Sr., was spokesman for the occasion, being commissioner of pensions for Rockland county at the time. After an introduction a very sociable intercourse was had. Then bidding good-bye to the farmers and taking an affectionate farewell of the old veterans, they left the "Corners" for Hoboken, by way of Tappan.

With the completion of the Nyack turnpike through to Suffern the "Corners" became an important centre, and at one time the greatest thoroughfare of travel in the county. The "Corners" about this time assumed quite a businesslike aspect. After Gurnee's blacksmith shop and dwelling house came Swartwout's carriage factory, and the harness shop of Vanzant, on the northwest corner (Yeomans being dead) followed in 1842 by the hotel. About this time Vanzant built his dwelling house adjoining Gurnee's, north of the corner. On the turnpike, west of the corner, was the furniture manufactory of Auriansen, and his dwelling house; farther on was the studio and dwelling of John Hill.

In 1889 a district school was built opposite the West Shore station, on the turnpike. James Bensen, William and David Tremper had erected dwellings east of the Hackensack bridge on the turnpike. The school house was removed to the north side of the turnpike and is used as the West Shore station house.

The building of the Erie Road through the county diverted the travel in another direction, and Oblenis closed out his store business. The post-office was removed to the hotel, then kept by Thomas Warner, he acting as the deputy. In 1845 John W. Hutton, son-in-law of William Oblenis, opened the store as a grocery, and the postoffice was again transferred to

it, with Hutton as deputy Postmaster. Up to 1847 the place was known as "Oblenis's Corners," when a meeting was called to give a distinctive name to the place. The ground on which the hotel stood was leased to Warner by William Oblenis; the lease about to expire, Warner was desirous to dispose of the hotel and go in other business. Charles M. Oblenis, son of William, bought the hotel and grounds, and then the meeting was called. Many names were suggested, appropriate and otherwise, when at the proposition of one of the older residents Clarks Ville was adopted, and "Clarks Ville Hotel" was painted on the house. The village itself is still known as Clarksville.

In 1853 Hutton Brothers opened a store at Nannet. Charles M. Oblenis then bought the shares of his brothers and sisters, in the farm, and let the store to Abraham Vanhouten. Abraham was appointed the Postmaster. In 1855 Vanhouten sold to Martine & Teneycke; Martine then became Postmaster.

In 1854 Jefferson Wilcox, of the Knickerbocker Ice Company, purchased the place from Oblenis, built a store on the opposite corner for the occupancy of Martine & Teneycke. Teneycke of the firm died in 1859 and Martine retired.

James I. Lydecker bought the "store," in 1859, he being Postmaster. The postoffice was known as "Nyack Turnpike" till 1874. Lydecker sold the store in 1870 to John T. Smith, whose son David is Postmaster at this writing. The name of the postoffice was changed from Nyack Turnpike to "MontMoor," during the occupancy of John T. Smith in 1874, he being Postmaster. The relevancy for the change is a mystery. The store was leased to Bartow Bros., but William Hunt is the proprietor at this time. In 1850 Jacob A. Demarest (father of F. P. Demarest) bought the Clarksville hotel of Chas. M. Oblenis. In 1862 he traded it to Oliver Scott for Nyack property. Scott disposed of it to Abram Knapp, the present proprietor. The house built by Van Zant in 1860 and occupied as a grocery by Samuel Elsworth, since bought by Chas. Vanderbilt, is kept by him as a hotel. Gurnee sold his blacksmith shop and dwelling house to John V. Ackerman in 1846. The shop has since been taken down, the dwelling is converted into a hotel, kept at one time by David Storms, since dead; now kept by Andrew Wood.

The West Shore road cutting through the eastern section of the Oblenis tract, brought new life and many improvements to the place.

A hotel and grocery has been built near the depot; other business houses are springing up. At this time four hotels, two stores, two wheelwrights, a harness shop, carriage repository, livery stable, two coal yards and a butcher shop help to make the business of Clarksville.

If, however, the village has not kept pace with other places, not so with the farms around it. Even the swamp, east of the main road, through which the Nyack turnpike is constructed and was at that time a dense thicket of trees, bushes and briars, is being improved. This swamp, containing some fifty acres, was, previous to and during the Revolution, a grazing ground for cattle. At one time during the war this meadow was the rendezvous for cattle for miles around, brought for safety from the incursions of British and Tories.

After the massacre at Old Tappan, in 1778, a regiment of British regulars came to where the bridge crosses the Hackensack, one mile south of Clarksville, then called the Enhook bridge. The bridge having been destroyed, the main body of troops came no farther. A reconnoitering party was sent out, and they came as far as James Lydecker's house, north of "the Corners." Not seeing any cattle, they joined the main body, reporting no cattle in sight. There was great excitement at the time. A friendly courier informed the neighborhood that the "Red-coats," as the British were called, were coming. All the able bodied men being away in the army, the women of the neighborhood drove the cattle in the woods some distance north of the "Corners," adjoining the Hackensack. It was one of Gray's regiments on a marauding expedition, and finding no cattle, they looted every house on their return route to Dobbs Ferry.

The question may be asked, why so valuable a piece of meadow ground was allowed to grow up with bushes and briars and become entirely worthless. The explanation is simple and quite satisfactory. Garret Oblenis, who owned the farm and swamp through which the turnpike is built, said that during the seven years that he and his brothers were in the army, the main ditches got closed and, as every farmer knows, the bushes then grow fast. When the war was over they were compelled to cultivate the upland for a living and had to let the swamp grow.

The genealogy of the Oblenis family, prominent as farmers who had occupied the same tract of land for nearly two hundred years, is rare in the history of our county. The ancestor of the family, Joorst Van Oble-

nis, came to this country from Holland, settling on land in Harlem along the Hudson. At that time he was forty years of age, having been born in 1616. This grant of 300 acres was confirmed by Peter Stuyvesant, the Governor of the Province, in 1656, and on the 7th day of March, 1686, when the state had been ceded by Holland to the English, this grant was further confirmed by Thos. Dongan, Capt.-General, Governor-in-Chief of the Province of New York, under his Majesty, James the Second. A map locating this land is in Mr. C. M. Oblenis' possession. Joost had three sons, Petrus, Johannes and Hendrick, all farmers and speculators in real estate, as the following abstracts of title will show:

"This indenture, made August 5th, 1705, in the fourth year of the reign of Our Sovereign lady Anne, from Peter Van Oblenis to Hendrick Van Oblenis, of Harlem." This deed is on parchment and is in Dutch.

"This indenture, made July 20, 1713, from Charles Colgrove to John V Oblenis of Harlem." On parchment, not in Dutch.

"This indenture, made July 20th, 1717, in the 16th year of the reign of Our Sovereign, lady Anne, from Charles Colgrove to John V Oblenis of Harlem. The deed is on parchment and in Dutch.

"This indenture made April 16th, 1767, from Marinus Low to John Oblenis, both of New York." This is on parchment, not in Dutch.

"This indenture made the eleventh day of December, in the sixth year of the reign of Our Sovereign, Lord George the Second, by the grace of God of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King, defender of the faith, etc., Anno Domini, One thousand seven hundred and thirty-two, from Thomas Clark, merchant of the city of New York, to Hendrick Oblenis, yeoman, of the town of Harlem." Not in Dutch.

This deed is for the eight hundred acres in the Kakiat patent, and was given to his son, Petrus, as his legacy. To John, his other son, he gave the Harlem property, consisting of 500 acres, including Washington Heights on the Hudson. Joost Van Oblenis, father of Hendrick, died in 1706, ninety years of age. Hendrick, his son, died in 1745. John, son of Hendrick, died in 1775. The family deeds and maps are quite well preserved and are in the care of Charles Oblenis, of Nyack. Petrus, son of Hendrick of Harlem, died in 1763, aged 86 years. Hendrick, son of Petrus, died in 1815, aged 83; Peter, son of Hendrick of Kakiat, died in 1831, aged 74; Garret, son of Hendrick, died in 1839, aged 79; Albert, son of Hendrick, died in 1806, aged 41; Barnet, son

of Hendrick, died 1825, aged 54; John, son of Barnet and Gertrude Oblenis, died 1875, aged 75 years; William, son of Barnet and Gertrude, died 1881, aged 78 years. The Oblenis row in the burial ground of the Old Stone Church at Clarkstown, contains the remains of those once sturdy Dutch farmers.

Fifty years before Rockland was known as a county, in a precinct of comparative forests, sparsely settled, and years before Clarkstown had a local name or place on the map, the church was built. The early records of this old church are either lost or have been destroyed. Enough of its history, however, remains to show that a church society was organized in 1748 and the church built in 1750; dedicated on the 17th of June of that year as the Reformed Dutch Church of New Hempstead. In 1830 it was repaired and enlarged and a charter was granted. It then became known as the Reformed Dutch Church of Clarkstown.

It was then in the zenith of its prosperity; situated in the most populous part of the town, occupying an important centre with the largest congregation of any church in the county.

The late David Pye, of Clarkstown, whose father lived near the church when it was built in 1750, is the authority for saying his father told him there was a log house with a straw roof, on the ground where the church now stands, as early as 1740, built as a place for meeting, before there was any church organization, where the neighboring settlers and their families could meet and exchange views socially and theologically; also to inform each other of the state of the market. The ground on which it stood was donated by Theodorus Polhemus, ancestor of the once numerous Polhemus family, the possessor of many acres in that part of the Kakiat patent. "The nearest church," said Mr. Pye, "then being at Tappan, seven or eight miles distant, the only communication being on horseback or with their heavy farm wagons with wheels sawed from logs—spokes and hubs not having come in yet—and there was dissention or strife among the Tappan congregation, as to whether they should adhere to the dogmas that ruled the Church of Holland or assert their independence thereof. The settlers in this part of Kakiat, the precinct of Naurashaw, favored the independent party, and not being numerous enough to organize a separate congregation, they chose this their central position to build a log structure, simply that they and their families could meet, exchange views and discuss the situation.

"The strife among the Tappan congregation lasted through several years; the church was closed to worship of any kind. Baptismal services during the time were held in private houses and barns. This being the situation, the inhabitants of the precinct met and formed a church society, and two years later, in 1750, the present stone church was built, the log building giving way for it."

One hundred and twenty years this church served the purpose of its original designers. Then in 1870 a difference of opinion arose among the younger people of the congregation as to the suitableness of their old place of worship. They thought it too old fashioned for the times, and out of date.

Following are the names of the various pastors who have officiated from its organization in 1750 to its abandonment in 1870: Rev. Samuel Verbryek, from 1750 to 1784; Rev. Nicholas Lansing, from 1784 to 1830; Rev. Christopher Hunt, from 1830 to 1832; Rev. Alexander H. Warner, from 1832 to 1837; Rev. Peter J. Quick, from 1837 to 1866; Rev. Benjamin C. Lippincott, from 1866 to 1870.

The following description of the present neglected condition is copied from an editorial published in the Nyack Evening Star, Sept. 12, 1899: "Considerable interest has been awakened by an article from a correspondent in Wednesday's 'Star,' in which the Old Stone Church of Clarkstown is spoken of and which it is stated that the hand of vandalism has been at work in despoiling this ancient edifice of some of its important features. For many years this old church building has stood unused in what was once the most thickly populated locality in Clarkstown, and by its side is the ancient burial ground where the parents and grandparents of many of our oldest and best known citizens sleep their long sleep. The church was an outgrowth of the first Reformed Dutch Church in the county—that of Tappan—and was organized in 1748. From that date to 1830 the pastors of the Tappan church administered to the spiritual wants of the Clarkstown people, and Revs. Mutzelus, Bertholf, Verbryek, and Lansing preached regularly in the old church, which now stands neglected.

It became a separate charge in 1830, and the more recent pastors of that congregation have preached in the new building, which is known as the Clarkstown Reformed Church. Rev. Garrett M. Conover is pastor at the present time. The old edifice served its purpose well enough until

1870, when a difference of opinion arose among the members as to the suitableness of their temple of worship. It certainly was large enough to hold all who attended the services, but many among them wanted a new building, and to have it in a different locality.

A change was made and the old church was deserted. All that was considered useful was removed from its interior; and the old graveyard, in which sleep the older citizens with many Revolutionary soldiers, was considered too out of date for a burial place; and the moss took firmer hold on the old red sandstone slabs, bedimming the name and age of the fathers. Sacreligious hands laid hold of the reliets of departed worth; and winter winds whistled through the empty window sashes, and the snows of successive winters sifted through on the floor of the lonesome sanctuary.

How little those early pioneers of our county would have thought the structure they raised at such a sacrifice would stand the vicissitudes of a century and a half, to be despoiled by descendants of the same denomination as those who built it. Truly, vandalism has done its work but too well; vulture like they have stripped it of everything of any value, even to the large stepping stone placed at the entrance of the church, where it had lain for more than one hundred years. The anti-antiquated pulpit, so much in keeping with the 'Old Church,' has also been removed."

One of the old sandstones in the Oblenis row shows the burial ground much older than the church. It is undoubtedly as old as any burial ground in the county.

The new frame church was built in 1871, at a cost of \$22,000, including grounds. The dedication sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. Ormiston, an eminent divine from New York city. The pastors of the new church following Mr. Lippincott were Rev. Ferdinand S. Schenek, Rev. Samuel Streng, Rev. Goyn Tahnage, Rev. Eugene Hill and Rev. Mr. Conover. Rev. Charles S. Hageman, D. D., of Nyack, also served the church as a supply for a considerable length of time.

Foremost among the patriots was Major John Smith. He lived in the large old stone house just west of the German Church, in the bend from Clarksville to New City, which is still standing. The old house is almost exactly in the same condition as when occupied by him. He took part in the military movements of the Revolutionary War and was

often a participant in the scenes of danger. He was also prominent in the old Dutch Church, being for some time clerk of the church. In the original church building the bell rope came down in the center aisle, the bell being placed in the little tower on the center of the roof of the church. He officiated as the ringer of the bell and acted as "reader," or "voresanger," and led in the singing. He married Jemima DeWint, the daughter of John DeWint, who was the owner of the place known as Washington's Headquarters, Tappan. On his tombstone in the Clarks-town burying ground, adjoining the old church, is this record: "Major John Smith, died May 11th, 1833; aged 89 years, 3 months and 4 days." The following is a copy of the commission of Major received by him from General Clinton:

The People of the State of New York by the Grace of God Free and Independent, to John Smith, Esquire, Greeting:—
 We, reposing special trust and confidence as well in
 Seal of N. Y. your, Patriotism, Conduct and Loyalty as in your Valor
 and Readiness to do us good and faithful service, Have
 appointed and constituted and by these presents Do
 appoint and constitute you, the said John Smith, First Major of the
 Regiment of Militia in the County of Orange, whereof A. Hawks Hay,
 Esquire, is Colonel. You are, therefore, to take the said regiment into
 your charge and care as First Major thereof to duly exercise the officers
 and soldiers of that Regiment in Arms, who are hereby commanded to
 obey you as their First Major, and you are also to observe and follow such
 Orders and Directions as you shall from time to time receive from our
 General and Commander-in-Chief of the Militia of our State, or any
 other your superior officer, according to the Rules, discipline of war, in
 pursuance of the Trust reposed in you; and for so doing This shall be
 your Commission for and during our good pleasure, to be signified by our
 Council of Appointment. In Testimony Wherefor, we have caused our
 Seal for Military Commissions to be hereunto Affixed. Witness our
 Trusty and well beloved George Clinton, Esquire, our Governor of our
 State of New York, General and Commander-in-Chief of all the Militia,
 and Admiral of the Navy of the same, by and with the Advice and Con-
 sent of our said Council of Appointment, at Poughkeepsie, the Twenty-

eight day of May, in the second year of our Independence, and in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight.

Passed the Secretary's office August 3rd, 1778.

By His Excellency's command.

GEORGE CLINTON.

ABRM. B. BAUCKER, Du. Secretary.

There is quite an amusing incident related of Major Smith soon after he was appointed a Major. Being somewhat unfamiliar with military tactics, he was practicing one day in his garret, when he gave the command to himself, sword in hand: "Major Smith, step backward." He obeyed the command and fell down the open stairs. His wife rushed to see what was the matter, when he jumped up and exclaimed valiently, "Wife, wife, you know nothing about the wars!"

The belief in witchcraft in our county in old times is shown in the following story, related by a resident of the town. It not only gives information concerning the locality, but is undoubtedly true:

About a half-mile north from Clarksville we come to the first house in that day, built by Abram Lydecker, father to Albert and Isaac P. It was a large, brown stone house, removed by Major Isaac Pye in 1851, to make room for the one now standing there. A quarter of a mile farther north was the quaint old house and mill of Auert (Aaron) Polhemus, father of Dr. John and Dorus (Theodorus). The old house stood on the bank, a few yards north from the entrance to the "mill." It was an old-fashioned Dutch gabled hip roof, and unlike many buildings of its day, was constructed of wood. The old mill may have passed unnoticed, had it not become famous as the trial place of a witch.

West from the old Clarkstown Church on the road to Bardon's Station (on the New City Railroad) stood, at one time, a small wooden, unpainted building, occupied by an aged widow and her son by a former husband. The widow's name was Hannah, known as Naut Kannif. The son's name was Tobias Lowrie, and he like his mother was eccentric and reticent. The mother having some knowledge of the medicinal as well as the curative qualities of herbs, made some effective cures; this and her fondness for her only companions, a black cat and talking parrot, was looked upon as suspicious by the neighbors, who shunned her as they would a contagion; when any disaster befel the neighborhood "Naut Kannif" was sure to be the author.

It may seem strange, in the eighth decade of the nineteenth century, to learn that on such frivolous evidence a woman should be condemned as a witch and compelled to go through the ordeal of a witch to prove her innocence. Prominent citizens of the neighborhood, men and women, held a secret meeting in a fulling mill, which stood just east from A. A. Demarest's sawmill, and was owned at the time by one of the Pye family.

Here it was agreed to put "Naut" to a test that would prove her innocence or guilt, viz.: Bind her hand and foot, throw her in the mill pond. If she floated she must necessarily be a witch, but if she drowned then her innocence would be established beyond a doubt.

With this charitable intent in their minds, the committee brought the victim of their malice to the pond adjoining A. A. Demarest's house, as there was no pond at the church then, where she was bound and was about to be cast in the water, when another party, or parties, appeared on the scene in the persons of Squire Yaupy (Jacob) Vanderbilt and Jake Clark.

Then other counsels prevailed. Instead of the water test, it was decided to take "Naut" to Avert Polhemus's grist mill and in his great flour scales weigh her against the old Holland Dutch family Bible, iron bound, with wooden covers and iron chain to carry it by.

If outweighed by the Bible, she must be a witch beyond any doubt, and must suffer accordingly. She was taken to the mill against her most earnest protest, put in the scales and weighed. Weighing more than the Bible, the committee released her, amid the ominous shaking of heads at the decision of her judges. Her persecutors were threatened with an action at law. The matter was, however, settled before it came into the courts, and "Naut" was allowed to return to the companionship of her cat and parrot. Thus ended ingloriously to the actors at least, the last trial for witchcraft in New York State.

A singular accident occurred at Pye's fulling mill a short time after the secret meeting, which proved fatal to one of his children. A large wooden hammer of some two or three hundred pounds weight (used for beating cloth), by some accident or mishap fell on Pye's boy, who got under the hammer, and he was immediately crushed beyond all recognition. This was attributed to "Naut" for the brutal treatment she had received from her Christian neighbors.

The belief in witchcraft was not all confined to the inhabitants in the vicinity of Clarksville. Many of the Dutch farmers in Clarkstown had inherited a belief in the supernatural from their ancestors in Holland, and many hair-raising tales were told by them in cold winter nights beside the blazing wood fire and the light of "tallow dips."

NANUET.

This village dates back to the opening of the Erie Railroad in 1841. It was called Clarkstown until 1856, when at the suggestion of James DeClark it was changed to Nanuet, taking the name of an Indian chief. Prior to 1841 not over a half dozen houses stood between the Turnpike and schoolhouse, but with the opening of the railroad a store was built by David DeClark, which was used as the first railroad station. In 1849 D. P. Demarest erected a house, part of which was used as the station. In 1852 Dr. M. C. Hasbrouck built the brick store now occupied by William Hutton, Jr., as a general store and post office. The first hotel was opened by Peter Demarest, Jr., and was conducted after his death, in 1839, by his son, D. P. Demarest. This hotel was known as the old Red Tavern and is now a private house. It stood just south of the present Nanuet schoolhouse. In the early days of this hostelry the grounds in front was the gathering place for all the county militia companies, which met here to drill each year. The woods opposite the hotel were utilized by the militiamen to revel in. The present hotels in Nanuet are five in number. There are also two general stores, of which William Hutton, Jr., conducts the most important, a blacksmith shop, meat market, livery stable, lumber yard, formerly conducted by Henry O. Hutton and his brother, John W., organized into a stock company upon the death of John W., which occurred in 1882. There are about six hundred inhabitants. Nanuet is beautifully located and New York business men are artistically laying out fine summer homes near the village.

The Baptist Church in this village was established in 1860, on land donated by David P. Demarest, as the outgrowth, or rather successor of the Middletown Baptist Church. Its first pastor was Rev. William Paulin and the first to be baptized here were Letty Winters and Sarah Bowden, on the 17th of March, 1861. After a service of seven years Pastor Paulin resigned, in 1866, having faithfully served in getting the

church started, and the Rev. C. J. Page came as his successor. The pastors in regular order since then have been Rev. A. B. McGowan, in 1871; Rev. Frederick Greaves, in 1873; Rev. Frank Fletcher, in 1880; Rev. W. S. S. Worden, in 1884; Rev. Joseph M. Sullivan, in 1890; Rev. Paul J. Lux, in 1892; Rev. J. W. Cole, in 1897, and the present pastor, Rev. Mr. Bradley, in 1901. There were intervals, however, when the church was without a regular minister, yet the services were kept up and the interest in the work was never lacking. A Sunday school has been connected with the church and the superintendents serving the longest have been Sylvester M. Dow and Earle Insley.

The history of the Seceder Church, now unused, is given elsewhere, under the township heading.

A foundry was started in 1867 by Abram D. Brower, which had but a short existence. In 1794 Major Cornelius Blauvelt conducted a sawmill on Naurashaw Brook, south of the present village. In about 1810 this property was sold to Abram C. Blauvelt and since then has been owned by Aurt Van der Wall, Isaac Pye, David Benson, Gustav Bolig, and is now owned by Louis Bolig, son of Gustav Bolig.

The first post office was established on March 6th, 1846. David DeClark was the first postmaster. Since his incumbency David P. Demarest was appointed postmaster on February 13th, 1851; William H. Snyder, October 21, 1862; Edward Hutton, August 3rd, 1870; William Hutton, August, 1885, and William Hutton, Jr., September 24, 1897.

The Nanuet Debating Society was formed in 1845 by local residents for social intercourse, and for discussing the important questions of the day. The old schoolhouse was purchased as a place of meeting. Prominent among those who participated in these debates were C. A. DeBaun, C. A. Blauvelt, Andrew Hopper, A. J. Demarest, David Bogert and Nicholas C. Blauvelt. The Nanuet Temperance Society afterwards occupied this old school building. In the spring of 1863 Samuel B. Blauvelt and C. L. Ackerson opened Mechanics' Hall to the public.

The Nanuet Cemetery came into general use at the time the church adjoining was built. The stone of Daniel DeClark, however, bears the date of a year earlier. It reads: "In memory of Daniel DeClark, who departed this life Sept. 22, 1825, aged 57 years, 11 months." On other old red sandstones in this cemetery are "Thomas Blanch, 1834," "Danl.

A. Blauvelt, 1841," "Peter Cole, 1852." A new addition to this cemetery was opened by Joseph N. Blauvelt, adjoining the old one, at the time the Seceder Church split from the Dutch Reformed Church. The new addition is used by all Protestant denominations. A new Catholic cemetery called the Bardonia Calvary Cemetery was started two years ago. It is in the Bardonia parish.

The Nanuet Fire Engine Company was organized in 1860. The first officers were: William H. Snyder, Foreman; J. W. Demarest, Assistant Foreman. This company was chartered by the State Legislature in 1862. An engine house was erected in 1868. Prior to 1868 the firemen met in Mechanics' Hall. William Hutton, Sr., was Foreman of this company for many years. The company has thirty-eight members, a goose-neck hand engine, "Old Piermont No. 1," and a hose cart, 200 feet of hose, 30 feet of suction hose and other apparatus. The officers are: Louis Rufner, Foreman; L. H. Hutton, Assistant Foreman; Jacob Smith, Secretary; Wilbert F. Downs, Treasurer. There has been only a half dozen fires during the past twelve years, and these were dwellings and barns, except recently, when the depot was destroyed, which was the largest conflagration the place has ever experienced.

The Nanuet school can be traced back to the time when Abram C. Blauvelt was teacher, in 1812, and was exempt from military duty on that account. The old school house was a red building $14\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ on the outside and stood where the road crosses the swamp westward now. In 1844 the primary department of the present school was erected and in 1869 the part used as a grammar school was built. The school library had its inception in 1839 and now contains 169 volumes. There is also a public library of 1,787 volumes here. The trustees of the school are M. H. Demarest, Matthew B. Marks and Jacob A. Smith, and of the public library the trustees are J. J. Weiant, Miss Amelia Brown and Mr. Fay. The school stands one-third of a mile south of the Nanuet station.

CONGERS.

Congers is situated at an altitude of about 300 feet above sea level, with a view of unsurpassed magnificence. Verdreitege Mountain lies on the east, separating it from the Hudson river; the "High Tor," one of its highest peaks, directly north, and the Ramapo Mountains north and west.

The Rockland, Swartwout and New Lake, forming a chain of lakes, of pure crystal water, connected by the Kill von Beaste creek, are the largest bodies of fresh water within a radius of fifty miles of New York city.

Congers covers an area of between 2,400 and 2,500 acres, and that too of land which had formerly been devoted solely to farming. There is nowhere in the county a place more beautifully located. The Hackensack river to the west, with its tributaries of rippling brooks and miniature cascades, forming water power for the mills, the one on the Isaac Pye estate being in the limits of this town.

Its early history is simple. From a quiet little neighborhood in Clarkstown, composed of farms, passing from one generation to the other, uneventful, unchanged, dating back to 1710 (about the earliest date obtainable), resisting the rising American spirit and transmitting their views to their children, they entailed upon this region and handed down to the present generation, the conservative temperament which resists the efforts of those who come in to help and build up a growing and thriving village with every advantage on its side.

In 1883 the New York, West Shore and Buffalo Railway Co., also known as the West Shore, New York Central, West Shore Division, the latter as it is known to-day, was completed. This was the first railway connection that the place ever had. The name Congers dates back to the building of this railroad and the location of a site for a station was furnished by Hon. A. B. Conger, and the greater part of the road bed lies through this estate; previous to this it was known as Waldberg.

In 1889 a company known as the Boston Improvement Co., purchased 2,400 or more acres of land, parts of the farms of A. B. Conger, W. H. Hankin, G. P. Felter, Richard and George Swartwout, G. B. Jolliffe and others; surveyed and divided it into lots, about ten thousand in all.

Lots were sold, large hotels and modern houses erected, streets laid out and the foundation of the present town established.

In the year 1897 a few enterprising citizens formed what was known as the Citizen's Improvement Association. Its object was to reach as many non-resident property owners as possible; attend to paying their taxes at a nominal sum per lot, with membership dues of three dollars per annum. In that way revive interest in their investments and co-op-

erate with the residents in making many necessary improvements.

Stone sidewalks were constructed along the main streets and avenues at a cost of over \$2,500, obtained through dues, fees and entertainments. Trees were planted, street lamps maintained and factories located.

The officers whose efforts were thus crowned with success were W. H. Faulkner and William H. Hanking, Presidents; Joseph F. Kelly and G. F. Odell, Secretaries; David Marthing and V. C. Eckhart, Treasurers. To-day we have a factory in full operation, "The Twentieth Century Broom Co.," six stores, four hotels, two livery stables, the Methodist, Catholic and Presbyterian Churches, and the handsomest depot of brown sandstone between here and Weehawken. The Alert Hook and Ladder Company, organized in 1896, has a good membership and has done excellent service. Its present officers are: T. W. Kearney, Foreman; Oscar Merrian, Assistant Foreman; John Dickerman, Secretary.

The first post office for Congers was applied for in the year 1890, the original office being at Rockland Lake. The first Postmaster, appointed by President Benjamin Harrison, was Charles DeBevoise, who died while in office and was succeeded by Henry J. Files, to fill unexpired term. He was re-appointed under President Cleveland. George F. Odell was appointed in 1897 by President William McKinley.

Owing to the early records being lost, it cannot be learned what year the first public school was erected. It was, however, some time about 1854 or 1855. A small building, consisting of one room, situated at the foot of the hill in a corner of the lot on the Rowe place, now the G. A. Cropsey farm, under a walnut tree still standing. It had no playground, the children using the road for that purpose. In about 1879 an acre lot was obtained from A. B. Conger and a schoolhouse, a trifle larger than the first, with an addition of one room added in 1893, was constructed. Its condition and size to-day does not fill one with pride, for the house of learning is still too small for the accommodation of the district. The present Board of Trustees are David Marthing, George F. Odell and V. C. Eckhart.

At the meeting of the two roads, a short distance east of the station, stands a small frame church, which was established by a small body of people who separated from the Clarksville Dutch Reformed Church in 1830. Abram Snedeker deeded the land to be used exclusively for

church purposes, with a liberal donation toward the building. He also purchased three pews, still in the church, for the use of the family and their heirs. This was known as the Waldberg Dutch Reformed Church. Services were held every third Sunday, the Clarksville minister supplying the pulpit. For a time it was closed, when the Rev. Mr. Boyde, of the Hempstead Presbyterian Church, re-opened it and conducted services. In 1840 A. B. Conger came here from New York city and made extensive alterations and repairs. The Presbyterians thus took charge and it was in that denomination until 1874, when services were discontinued for ten or twelve years, when the Methodists applied for permission to hold services there, which was granted, and it is still in their hands. The present pastor, the Rev. Gardiner Howland, also has charge of the Rockland Lake Church, this being a branch of that body.

At the back of the pulpit is a white marble tablet, placed there by Clarence R. Conger, in loving memory of his mother, Mary Rutger McCrea Conger, born April 4th, 1819, died May 23rd, 1884.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God," is the inscription.

The Presbyterian Church of Congers was organized April 14th, 1891, by a committee appointed by the Presbytery of Hudson, 1890, composed of ministers. Rev. T. McB. Nichols, Rev. A. S. Freeman, D. D., Rev. J. S. Gilmor and Elders J. S. Gilmor and E. Hyatt. The church was organized with seven members. Mr. Charles Kerr was unanimously elected a ruling elder. The church building was erected through the persevering efforts of Rev. J. S. Gilmor during the summer of 1891 and dedicated in October of that year. Rev. John Hall, D. D., of New York city, preached the dedicatory sermon to a full house; although a small church and congregation, yet they are entirely free from debt. Rev. H. F. Hamlin was pastor two years after Mr. Gilmor resigned a pastorate of over seven years, and was elected Pastor Emeritus. The church is now being supplied by Rev. E. P. Essick.

St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church, situated on the Lake Road, was erected in 1894, the Rev. John J. Mulhern being the first pastor. The present incumbent, the Rev. John Nageleisen, has done much for the improvement and extension of the church.

When he first came the parish included Rockland Lake, New City and Bardonia. He has established and built churches in these places,

has greatly improved St. Paul's property, purchasing and fitting up a rectory, laying out the grounds, planting trees and shrubs. He is a man of broad and liberal views, public spirited and greatly esteemed and beloved by his followers and the community.

A large amount of stone was at one time taken from the quarries running along the line of the railroad; there seems to be a vein of sandstone, which was used for many purposes. They have supplied stone used in the building of Trinity and Rutger Street Churches, in New York city. The stone marking the graves in the old Rutger street burying ground, afterward moved to Woodlawn Cemetery, in Greater New York, on the Harlem Railroad, were brought from here. Some of these quarries have been filled in and at present deeds of property prohibit the quarrying of stone in this vicinity. The deepest of these is the one nearest the railroad crossing, being about 100 feet deep. The stone of this was used in building the bridges for the West Shore Railroad. It being necessary to go so deep to get the harder rock, a boiling spring soon filled the aperture with water and remains so to the present day.

Scattered around in the most unexpected places one comes across burying-grounds, all over grown, sometimes not more than one or two graves to be found, and those sunken, stones falling down or almost buried and shamefully neglected. In looking these over, the first on the top of the hill on the New City road on the G. A. Cropsey farm, is a large white stone marking the last resting place of Solomon Waring, who died October 11th, 1841, aged 69 years, 8 months and 12 days, with this inscription:

"Go home, dear children and shed no tears;
I must lie here till Christ appears.
When he appears I hope to have
A joyful rising from the grave."

(Solomon Waring was one of the members of the first town meeting on record in the history of Rockland county, held at New City, Thursday, April 4th, 1809.)

Back of the old Waldberg church and partly covered by it, lies the remains of some of the Snedeker family, whose property this is a part of. The oldest graves that can be seen to-day are Tunis Snedeker, who died Sept. 18th, 1810, aged 29 years; Margaret Snedeker, who died Oct. 30th, 1810; Garret S., April 13th, 1843, aged 79 years; Jabez Halsey, died July 29th, 1856, aged 55 years. This by will was to be the

family burying ground, but it was afterward considered advisable to bury elsewhere. A spot was selected in the southern part of the town, on a point of land projecting into the new lake, and was used for a number of years. There are stones there bearing the names of William Hanking, who died April 2nd, 1863, aged 48 years, since removed with his wife, who died years afterward, to Nyack (Oak Hill), and DeBauns, Snedeker, Brinckerhoff, Paul, Remsen, Swartwout, Gerow, Cokalette, Keesler and other names familiar and still well represented in the town and county. The dates of burial are from 1801 to 1876. Some old and rather peculiar inscriptions are found here. One reads:

"As you are now so once was I;
As I am now so you must be.
Prepare for death and follow me."

Another landmark is the Central Hotel, situated on the Haverstraw Road. On this site, in 1894, the original was destroyed by fire. This was built by Abraham Snedeker in 1835, and conducted by him until 1868, when his son Daniel assumed the business, which he continued until his death, in 1895. Its present occupant, Dr. Jerome Newcome, from Litchfield, Conn., still continues the business. The property, however, remains in the Snedeker family.

A short distance east of the station is the farm of George Swartwout, which is a place of some historical importance. The farm is part of a large tract of land which the Government confiscated in the time of the Revolution, and the main part of the house in which Mr. Swartwout lives, was standing at that time. The farm was purchased by the great grandfather of the present owner, and was occupied by Derick Swartwout, a son of the purchaser. From him it passed to his oldest son, James D., and then to George. The family is one of the oldest in this part of the county and can be traced back to 1660.

The pioneer of this family resided at Esopus and was at one time Sheriff of Ulster county. The great grandfather of George was a general in the Revolutionary War and his son was an officer of some rank in the War of 1812.

Derick Swartwout reached an advanced age and his son, James D., lived to be more than 85 years old. George and Richard still occupy homes on the original estate, the former the old homestead, the latter a place of more recent construction about a quarter of a mile east of the homestead.

The Snedeker estate, considered to be the oldest estate possessed by and of the families now living in this vicinity, is the most beautiful portion of Clarkstown, the fertile tract of land lying between the Hackensack river, or the Demarest Kill, and the mountains that border the river, and extending south to the road that leads to Rockland Lake. This was the portion of the Pond Patent which fell to the share of Captain John Sands, and was sold by him to the Snedekers, a family of some importance in the county.

Tunis Snedeker, who was a native of Hempstead, Long Island, living there in 1710, is supposed to have been the father of Theodorus, Abraham, Tunis, Johannes and Garret. He came to this part of the county as early as 1731, and bought the tract above referred to. He died August 3rd, 1750, probably intestate, for his sons gave quit claim deeds to each other for their separate tracts.

Johannes Snedeker's part lay between the King's Road and Demarest's Kill. The part of Garret Snedeker was 435 acres "strict measure," and the deed signed by his brothers, Theodorus, Johannes and Abraham, dated May 20th, 1722, described it as: "Beginning at a white oak tree standing in or near a line of old marked trees which ran along that line north 44 degrees 15 minutes west to an elm tree standing by the highway." Its western boundary was the highway called the King's road. It was also bounded part of the way by the land of Johannes Snedeker, and its furthest extent north was a walnut tree standing at the foot of the mountain above the Long Clove.

The general boundaries as given in the deed were: "South by land of Jacob Polhemus, deceased, west partly by road and part by the land of Johannes Snedeker, north by the mountain and east by land of Theodorus Snedeker.

The original title of Tunis Snedeker to this part of the patent cannot be found. But in 1770 the proprietor of the north moiety of Kakiat Patent laid claim to certain portions of the north part of the Pond Patent. Probably on account of this, Garret Snedeker procured a new deed from John Sands, of Long Island (probably the heir-at-law of the original owner), October 23rd, 1770, and then gave new deeds to the rest.

To Tunis, the oldest son and heir-at-law of Theodorus Snedeker, who died in 1767, he deeded 388 acres, "bounded south by Rem Remsen, west by Garret Snedeker, north by the mountain, and east by

Abraham Snedeker and the pond." To Abraham he conveyed 403 acres, bounded west by Tunis S., north and east by mountains, south by John Ryder and the pond. The pond end is at a road leading from the King's road to "Slaughter's Landing" (Rockland Lake Dock). Tunis Snedeker sold 185 acres of his part to his younger brother, Theodorus, and when he died, in 1773, he left him all his lands. Theodorus Snedeker sold supplies from his farm to the British stationed in the Hudson river during the Revolution, was caught, his property confiscated and afterward sold by Samuel Dodge and Daniel Graham, Commissioners, to Jacobus Swartwout, of Dutchess county, August 18th, 1782. The original deed is now on file in the County Clerk's office at New City.

Abraham Snedeker died in 1771 and left his lands to Abraham Thew, his grandson. In his will he directed that the family burying-ground should not be sold, but remain forever for the Snedeker family.

Garret Snedeker died about 1776, and his estate was left to John Thew and to Richard, Theodorus, Tunis and Garret Snedeker. The estate was divided by the commissioners in 1789.

The only branch of the Snedeker family that owns any part of this estate are the descendants of Johannes, one family of which still own a portion of the ancestral inheritance, being the great grandson of Johannes, who occupies the homestead to-day.

Johannes was appointed by Governor Sir Henry Clinton, captain of a company of militia for the south part of Orange county, Abraham Haring Colonel, June 29th, 1746. This commission, signed by John C. Sherwood, Secretary; Henry Clinton, Governor, is still in the possession of Garret Snedeker at the Homestead.

During the Revolution he took up arms in the cause of freedom and was captured by the British, with his son Garret. They were chained together, taken across the river at Stony Point under a shower of bullets from the Hessians at that place, shouting, "Shoot the Tories," were marched down the other side of the river to New York city and confined in the old Sugar House. The son, Garret, was exchanged and returned, but the father, Johannes, having served in His Majesty's service, was retained; he contracted smallpox and died, Sept. 28th, 1779, aged 58. Johannes left two sons, Garret and Tunis, and several daughters. The present Garret Snedeker, who occupies the place now, was the only grandchild born there and was named for his grandfather.

Garret added to the old stone house, making it larger, in 1793. In a room in the main part Washington took dinner on his way to West Point. In it is the chair he sat in, being one of six nearly two hundred years old and in perfect order. This house stands about forty rods west of the King's road and about a quarter of a mile northwest from the old Waldberg church.

Abraham Snedeker was born May 15th, 1793, and was a veteran of the war of 1812, and was drawing a pension at the time of his death, which occurred in 1855. He left two sons, Daniel and Garret. Daniel died in 1895, leaving three daughters. Garret is still living, at about eighty years of age, and has a wife living and two adopted daughters. Various tracts of the original estate have in the course of time been divided into small parcels.

In 1840 Hon. Abraham B. Conger, by various purchases, became the owner of almost the whole of the original estate, and a considerable portion of it is now in the possession of his family.

ROCKLAND LAKE.

Rockland Lake village is situated east of the lake and lies between there and the foot of the hill at the river, where the Knickerbocker Ice Company load their barges for shipment and where there is a steamboat landing. The place consists of a church, several stores and hotels, but the Knickerbocker Company is the life of the village and its main dependence, as it has large storehouses here and employs many hands in winter. The place was formerly known as Slaughter's Landing, bearing that name previous to 1835. In 1711 John Slaughter, an Englishman, is said to have purchased ground now covered by the village, which gave it its early name. Another account states that the British often landed during the Revolution and stole cattle and drove them down to the shore and slaughtered them before taking them on board their vessels. Both are no doubt correct. It was probably re-christened Slaughter's by the blood sacrificed here for the appetites of the British seamen.

The gathering of ice was begun in 1831, with a capital of \$2,000, from which the business grew to its present importance. In 1855 three companies formed and continued under the name of the Knickerbocker Ice Co., with a capital of \$900,000, all paid up, clear of debt. Mr. Charles Cook, having grown up with the company, starting by

driving a horse on the dock, then raised to Superintendent of the dock, was, by his ability, chosen in 1895 as Superintendent of the whole plant here. He has accomplished much more than any other man. Under his direction there has been shipped over the hill by the cars, run by endless cable, to the dock, over 1,000 tons of ice in ten hours. In 1896 the ice company formed a corporation and called it the Consolidated Ice Company. As the business increased, in 1901 it was called the American Ice Company, with a capital of \$40,000,000. In harvesting ice they employ between 700 and 1,000 men and boys and over 60 horses.

The first hotel was built in 1839; the first store was opened in 1840, by A. D. Stephens, afterward Member of Congress. A wheelwright and blacksmith shop was started in 1840, by E. E. and J. E. Conklin, and a marine railway was built by Francis Powley in 1850. The first stone-crusher was started near the landing by John Mansfield in 1872. The post office was established in 1842 and the officials in charge have since been T. J. Wilcox, A. P. Stephens, Leonard F. Fitch, E. E. Conklin, A. T. Fitch, T. H. Woodcock, H. H. House and W. S. House.

The Knickerbocker Fire Engine Co. was organized in 1861 and has rendered valuable service at several large fires in this vicinity.

The first public school in the village was opened in 1835, the site being given by Mr. Wells, and a later one was built in 1850 on land given by John D. Ascough. In 1853 it became a free school and remained so until 1857, when the system was abolished in the district.

In October, 1867, it was resolved to raise \$550 by tax on the property of the district for educational purposes. In 1886 C. W. Weyant was elected trustee; in 1887, James W. Ackerson; in 1888, John Green, and the last three, Messrs. Ackerson, Weiant and Green, have been re-elected each succeeding term till the present (1902).

The schoolhouse proving entirely inadequate, the building of a new one was agitated, and at a special meeting held May 29th, 1895, it was voted to bond the district for \$6,000 to purchase a site and erect a new building. The adjoining lot on the north, then owned by the Catholic Church, was purchased and a building 70x35 was finished and dedicated on the evening of Jan. 8th, 1896, Hon. A. S. Tompkins, then County Judge, making the dedicatory address, in which he complimented the district on the appearance of the new structure. He also spoke very enthusiastically of the Board of Trustees, through whose untiring efforts

the school was raised to its high standard. The building consists of three rooms and is heated by steam, furnished with electric bells and other modern appliances. The old school building was taken down in sections and removed to the south end of the lake, where it still stands on the east side of the Boulevard, as a barn on the property of Julius Demmar.

William Onderdonk was elected as the first Librarian in 1859 and the next year the library books were removed to the schoolhouse and were used as a circulating library, until most of the books were either lost or destroyed. In 1885 Dr. H. H. House was elected Librarian and the foundation of the present library laid, to which books have been added each year, until the school now has a circulating library of over 500 volumes.

The following persons have been teachers in the school: John H. Stevens, Mr. Miller, Mr. Campbell, John A. Griswold, Robert Clements, H. C. Smith, Mrs. Pepper, James Medbury, Julia Bird, Miss Bird, John P. Tayler, Michael Deeling, E. N. Tupper, Miss Tupper, Alonzo Bardin, E. J. Horton, Elizabeth Christian, George Oldfield, Thomas Kennedy, Ida Kennedy, Mr. Scott, Mr. Bogart and wife, Isaac House, Washington Fullwood, Emory Smith, George Pratt, George A. Bossard, John C. Heyn and Mary Christian. In 1887 Mr. Taylor was principal and Misses Cyrinia and Blanch Harwell were assistants for two years. In 1889 Joseph K. Wiles became principal and has continued as such until the present time (1902). With him have been associated Misses Maud Buckley, Ellen W. Redmond, Amy E. Lugfeld, S. Caroline Miller and Elizabeth R. Jenkins.

In 1892 the Board of Trustees prescribed and adopted a Course of Study for use in the school and issued diplomas to any pupil who completed the course and passed the required examination in seventeen subjects.

The graduates of the school have been: George W. Reimer, Jr., and Misses Lulu E. Brinkerhoff, Kate Kernien, Elizabeth R. Jenkins, Anna May Hancock, Elizabeth Snedeker, Johann Liska, Grace Felter, Anna May Reimer and Oattie Behenskie.

Methodist services were held at Rockland Lake soon after the circuit riders began going their rounds of the county. The meetings were first held in private houses until in 1835, when a church was built on ground given by Benedict Wells and wife Bridget. In 1811 Rockland

Lake became a part of the Nyack Circuit. In 1848 it became large enough to support a pastor in connection with Nyack. The appointments to the two churches were: George Hitchens, C. S. Coit and J. S. Swain until 1851. Some of the preachers who served this church were R. VanHorn, Benjamin Day and Henry Begle. A new church was then built and its early pastors were Andrew Compton, Thomas H. Smith, George Griffiths, Gilbert S. Winans, Alexander Craig, George Simpson, William Stout, James Gordon, J. W. Young and C. F. Hall, and in later years James Piper, T. D. Frazee, Isaac Van Sant, Gardner Howland and E. O. Howland.

The scenery in this section is unsurpassed by that of any locality in the county or State and must eventually be recognized, as it deserves to be, by a greatly increased population. In a forecast of the future we seem to see the lake lying in the center of a beautiful city encircled by elegant villas and spacious hotels nestling in the foliage against the side hills; church spires are pointing upwards in all directions and the music of chimes is heard in fancy's ear echoing over the still waters. What a scene of beauty might arise to the eye of the beholder. Even now it seems to have commenced to assume shape. From the present situation, with Congers on the west, Rockland Lake village on the east and Quasbee on the south, there is apparently a favorable beginning for a great city, with a lake in its very center, surrounded by the sights and wonders of coming generations.

The tract of land of which Rockland Lake and Verdreitege Hook form a part, known as the Pond Patent, was a subject of controversy between "John Hutchins & Co." and "Jarvis Marshall & Co." Both obtained deeds from the Indians, but the latter probably had the priority, for a patent was granted Sept. 27th, 1694, to Jarvis Marshall and William Welch. This grant was for "All that tract of land lying upon Hudson river, called by the native Indians Quaspeck, beginning on the east side of a certain kill, and from thence runs N. 60 degrees, E. to a certain walnut tree marked and so to Hudson river; and then southerly by the said Hudson river as it runs, to the north line of Cornelius Classin, and thence by his north bounds to the ridge or top of the the mountains, then along the ridge southerly to the land of Tunis Dow; then by his land to a certain red oak tree standing on the east side of the kill aforesaid, thence by the said kill to the place where it began: Bounded

North by Johannes Miller, East by Hudson river and land of Cornelius Classen; South by land of Cornelius Classen and Tunis Dow and West by Demarest's kill."

This tract includes Rockland Lake, from which the patent derives its name. The Indian word Quaspeck probably means "Black Pond."

Jarvis Marshall sold his half to Thomas Burroughs, a merchant of New York, December 17th, 1695. By his will, dated August 18th, 1703, Mr. Burroughs left it to his youngest son, Joel, and his daughter Mary, who married Brinley Sylvester, of Shelter Island. They divided it by a line running from the Lake to Demarest's Kill, and Joel Burroughs had the north and Mary Sylvester the south part. The deed of partition is dated February 14th, 1718, and is now in possession of Isaac DeBaun, of Haverstraw. Joel Burroughs sold his part to Richard Stillwell May 5th, 1728, and he in turn sold it to Yoris Remsen, of Newtown, Long Island, November 6th, 1728. He left it to his son Theodorus, who left it to his two sons, George and Johannes, who divided it between them, June 16th, 1766.

Captain John Sands, of Long Island came in possession of one-fourth of the patent, at the north end, and he sold it to Tunis Snedeker, Oct. 23rd, 1707. He sold shares of this to Abraham and Tunis Snedeker; to the latter 388 acres, bounded south by Rem Remsen, north by the mountains, and east by Abraham Snedeker and the Lake; and to the former 403 acres, "the south end being at a road leading from the King's road to Slaughter's Landing." Part of this estate is now in the hands of the Snedeker family. The house of Theodorus Snedeker, an old stone dwelling, near Congers station, is still standing and belongs to Abraham B. Conger. Tunis Snedeker died before 1754, and his estate went to his children, Richard, Garret, Theodorus, Johannes and Abraham. His estate was divided in 1879. His descendants are still numerous.

The southern half of this patent lying east of the "Pond," or Rockland Lake has been divided and sold. The Boston Improvement Company was the last to take a large tract of it. The Remsens, Gerows and DeBaun places have all gone into the hands of strangers and it is hard to find just when the transfers were made. G. P. Felter, William H. Hanking, Cornelius Files, Anna Duany, Christopher Kley, Thomas Curry, Matthews and Mrs. Campbell still have large farms in this tract, on the other side of the Kill von Beaste.

Mrs. Anna Tallman's farm, comprising 50 or 60 acres, is what remains of a tract once owned by that family, reaching almost to West Nyack.

NEW CITY.

That section of the county north of the mountains during the forty-seven years that Tappan had been the county seat had become quite thickly populated and when, in 1774, the court house at Tappan was destroyed by fire, it was decided to select a more central location for a new court house and the site at New City was chosen. When the county building was erected there they named the site New City. The growth of New City has been slow. It now comprises, besides the county building, erected in 1828, five hotels, four stores, two meat markets, three shoe manufacturing establishments (in which about 110 persons find employment), a printing office, three churches, two blacksmith shops and a school.

The Fire Department, of which 35 citizens are members, besides a steamer and hose cart, has 1,300 feet of hose. It was organized and chartered in 1887. In that year Charles E. Horn was chief; in 1890, William DeBevoise; 1891, Elmer R. Wiles; 1892 to 1895, E. C. Buchenau; from 1895 to 1900, Isaac W. C. Blauvelt; 1900 and 1901, Theodore DeNoyelles. The officers for 1902 are: Foreman, E. C. Buchenau; Assistant Foreman, George Blauvelt; Secretary, Edward A. Gross; Treasurer, Chris. Salom; Chief, T. DeNoyelles; Assistant, Wren Covert. Chris. Salom has been treasurer since the company was started. E. C. Buchenau, Foreman five years; Edward A. Gross, Secretary seven years.

The Episcopal Church society was inaugurated here in 1867 through the exertions of Rev. E. Gay, of the House of the Good Shepherd, who preached in the court house at first, and the regular attendance being so large, he formed a parish and procured an assistant, Rev. Thomas Marsden, to help attend to this and the other two congregations under his charge. A Sunday school was also organized in the Court House and afterwards continued in an old stone house belonging to B. F. Barnes, until the church was built. The lot for the church building was given by Lawyer Charles W. Root, and the house of worship was completed in 1868. Mr. Charles DeBevoise was the first superintendent of the school. Following Mr. Marsden as rector have been Revs. Romaine,

Mansfield, Cruickshank, Capron, Esch and Rev. Thomas Stephens, the present pastor. The church is known as St. John's Episcopal, New City.

The New City M. E. Church Society was first organized at Isaac Jones's house in 1828. This house is now partially torn down. Rev. Manning Force was the Presiding Elder of this district. In 1833 a church was built on a lot bought of Samuel Bissett, and was called St. John's Church. This was destroyed by fire seventeen years thereafter. The deed for this church was then claimed by James Conklin, who, when the church was burned, claimed and collected \$600 insurance. Church meetings were then held in a wheelwright's shop for a time and in 1848 another church was built, which was used until 1898, when the present church edifice was erected, at a cost of \$7,400. This was dedicated, free from debt, in 1898. The ministers have been Richard Van Horn, George Hughes, C. T. Coit, E. F. Smith, P. G. Ruskman, J. H. Timbull, S. S. Pentz, W. H. McBride, S. Sargent, A. J. Conklin, R. M. Aylesworth, D. W. Rider, Albert A. Kidder, H. S. Wanamaker, 1885; W. P. George, 1885-'86; A. W. Ebersole, 1886-'87; Francis S. Walliston, 1887-'88; Francis V. Rogers, 1888-'89; I. C. Starr, 1889-'93; W. H. Russell, 1893-'96; W. S. Harper, 1896-'97; J. W. Prettyman, 1897-'98; E. O. Howland, 1898-1902; and George Fountain, the present one.

Of the other societies, an Order of Foresters organized a branch here six years ago, and a local organization called the International Benevolent Society, exists, with about 180 members.

The new school building was erected in 1901. It contains six rooms and employs three teachers, a principal and two assistants. The building is of modern construction, heated by furnace, contains water closets, cloak rooms, etc. It is the third school building erected upon these grounds. The old building was purchased by the Catholic society and remodeled into a Catholic church, and stands adjoining the school grounds. The school has a library of 250 volumes, which was established over thirty years ago. The roll call shows an attendance of 137 pupils. The Y. M. C. A. attempted to start a public library in New City, and secured about five hundred volumes. This proved a failure and the books were distributed among the members of that society.

The post office, which was established May 12th, 1815, under the name of Clarkstown, has had the following Postmasters; Peter D. W.

Smith, 1815; Abram Hogenkamp, Dec. 28th, 1822; Jabez Wood, July 23rd, 1839; William H. Melick, June 30th, 1849; John H. Stephens, February 13th, 1851; A. J. Van Houten, Aug. 7th, 1855; Alcibiades Cornelison, June 8th, 1861; Peter DeBevoise, July 19th, 1872, and the present incumbent, Jacob Vanderbilt. The name of the office was changed to New City, July 5th, 1876.

The Nannet and New City Railroad, now owned by the New Jersey and New York Railroad, was opened in 1875, which gave New City much better communication with other parts of the county.

The Rockland County Agricultural Society was organized in 1844, and annual fairs were held at New City until 1875, when Spring Valley was chosen, as better accommodations were offered, and the fairs were held there for a number of years. In the meantime the arrangement did not please many in other parts of the county, and so in 1879 another society was organized, called the Rockland County Industrial Association, which has since held annual fairs and exhibitions on the fair grounds east of the Court House, near the railroad depot. The Constitution of the Rockland County Industrial Association states that the objects of this association "shall be the improvement, advancement and promotion of Agriculture, Horticulture and Industrial occupations, and mechanics' arts in Rockland county, by holding an exhibition at least once each year at the New City Driving Park, in the town of Clarkstown, in said county."

The society when first organized in 1844, was devoted to the exhibition of farm products, but a few years later horse racing was added, which has since proved the chief attraction at these annual fairs. The first President of the old society was Abraham Stephens, and Secretary N. C. Blauvelt.

UPPER NYACK.

It seems strange to many people, particularly to strangers who come here, that there should be three separate Nyack corporations, and that while two of these corporations lie in Orangetown, the third, Upper Nyack, should be situated in Clarkstown. But such is the case. The dividing line between Orangetown and Clarkstown is the same line that separates Nyack from Upper Nyack, and on Broadway it is a short distance north of Tallman avenue. Until a few year years ago Upper

Nyack's boundary line on the north was near the southern point of the Hook Mountain, but some five or six years the boundary was extended more than half a mile further north to prevent the establishment of a dynamite factory along shore at the Hook Mountain. This object was successfully accomplished and the dynamite works were established just north of the new boundary.

While the people of Upper Nyack were still congratulating themselves upon their narrow escape from the dynamite works, the Mack Paving Company, in 1889, came to Upper Nyack and purchased the Varker place, under the very shadow of the Hook, to place a stone-crushing plant thereon. The news of this purchase was a surprise to nearly everyone in Upper Nyack, and when they read of it in the local papers, and those living near the mountain realizing that a large stone crushing plant there, with its heavy blasts every day, would prove detrimental to the value of their property, protested earnestly against the "new industry," as it was called. The work of establishing the plant went on, however, until it possessed a value, it is said, of nearly \$300,000. James P. McQuaide and Arthur C. Tucker, prominent and wealthy citizens who live near the Hook, brought proceedings in the Supreme Court to restrain the blasting. They succeeded in getting an order from Judge Dickey which restrained the blasting, except when it was done under certain strict limitations. The trap rock company went to the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, and that court reversed Judge Dickey's order and sent the case back for a new trial. Thus it remains now.

The first business ever carried on in Upper Nyack was the quarry business. It has always been more of a place for residences than for trade of any kind, however, although it has a couple of stores, a meat market, a good public school and an old stone church, erected in 1812, in which services are still held on Sunday afternoons during the greater part of the year. The place has two fire companies, viz.: Empire Hook and Ladder Company and Defender Steam Fire Engine Company, both housed in a handsome and substantial brick building. These companies belong to the Nyack Fire Department.

The Nyack Country Club, which some nine years ago rented the Maxwell property, at Upper Nyack, still occupies those premises and is one of the leading social organizations along the Hudson river. The

club has spacious grounds, including extensive tennis courts and golf links, and the club house is handsomely furnished and fitted up. The club's present officers are: President, Fred DeP. Stewart; Vice President, J. Du Pratt White; Secretary, Rev. R. H. Herron; Treasurer, VanWyck Rossiter.

The Country Club held its first annual Horse Show in October, 1901, and it proved so successful and satisfactory that preliminary plans are already being formed for another, to be held in October of the present year.

Boat building was extensively carried on in Upper Nyack for years in the yard owned by J. P. Voris. The first marine railway in Rockland county was built by John Van Houten, at Upper Nyack, in 1834. A number of well known boats were afterward built in this yard. A few years ago the yard was purchased by Samuel Ayres & Son, who now carry on an extensive business there. This new firm erected large new buildings upon their property and within the last three or four years have constructed a number of very fast steam yachts and launches.

School District No. 9, at Upper Nyack, was organized in 1844. The first building was erected in 1845, and, with an addition which was added in 1867, it was used until 1885, when the present edifice was completed. The first teacher, in 1845, was N. G. Spencer. The present Principal is Prof. J. W. Wiseman, who has made the school more progressive than it ever was before.

Upper Nyack Village was incorporated on September 28th, 1872, and its first officers were: President, Garret Sarvent; Trustees, Charles A. Fellows, William H. Jersey and Peter Voorhis; Collector, William H. Kipp; Treasurer, Isaac V. Smith; Clerk, Daniel M. Clark.

The present officers of the village, elected March 18th, 1902, are: President, Arthur C. Tucker; Trustees, John Watterson, Frank R. Crumbie; Treasurer, John W. Pitt; Collector, Frank Brush; Police Justice, Harvey C. Gilchrest; Police Constable, Alexander Brown.

CENTRAL NYACK.

Central Nyack, formerly called West Nyack, is a pleasant little hamlet lying west of Nyack village. The dividing line is the old cemetery lane which runs into the Nyack Turnpike. A canvass made within the last year showed that there were 105 families living in the limits of what is known as Central Nyack.

The place has three stores, a meat market, many large greenhouses, used principally for rose culture, a fire engine company—Lone Star No. 4—and a Congregational Church, organized in 1901. The Nyack Rural Cemetery, incorporated over fifteen years ago by David J. Blauvelt, is within the boundaries of Central Nyack. There is no school in the place, and the children are obliged to attend the Union Free School in Nyack village.

Central Nyack is known for its fine fruit, berries and poultry, the most extensive producer being Mr. S. H. Waldron.

Near this place is one of the most beautiful and romantic spots in the realm of Nature. It is known as LaVergne's Glen, and is situated about three minutes walk from Lone Star Engine House. Here the stream winds through a shaded ravine, over curious rock formation, until it reaches the brink of a deep basin, hewn, it would seem, out of the solid rock, where it dashes down in a cascade and disappears in a chasm of boulders. Those who visit this place for the first time are greatly surprised at what they behold, and wonder why such a scene of wild beauty should lie so obscure when it should become famous among the attractions for the summer tourist.

VALLEY COTTAGE.

Valley Cottage lies midway between Congers and West Nyack stations. The first permanent residence was the homestead of John Ryder, who settled here over one hundred years ago on a tract of 300 acres and built a large stone house with brick gables and four rooms on a floor. In this building his son Hercules, his grandson John H., and his great-grandson, Aaron Ryder, were born. The Ryder cemetery ground was donated by Hercules Ryder as a burial place for the neighborhood. It is situated half a mile south of the station. The school building stands on the ground donated by Hercules Ryder in 1810. The Lake Avenue Chapel was built about 35 years ago and is used for a Sunday school. Mr. Samuel Gilchrest is Superintendent. Pastors of different churches often hold services here. The postoffice was established in 1887 and the first Postmaster was Silas Shannon. The present Postmaster is E. J. Hicks. Both the postoffice and West Shore R. R. station derived their names from the name given to the residence of Mr. James A. Green.



HENRY BARDON.

BARDONIA.

Bardonia is situated about a mile northeast of Nanuet and is the first station on the New City extension of the N. J. & N. Y. R. R., and is composed of a few residences and a grocery and general provision store kept by Henry Bardon. As the neighborhood is only a short distance from the turnpike to Nyack it is likely to become a place of importance in the near future. A new Catholic church was erected near here in 1900, called St. Anthony's.

South of the Turnpike, near Bardonia, about fifty years ago, lay an uncultivated district known as the "Big Woods." The most of it was owned by Isaac Pye, who afterwards sold it off in small farms of a few acres each and a road was put through, running south, and a blacksmith shop was built on the Turnpike. The first who purchased of Mr. Pye were three brothers—Jacob J., Garret and James Rose, who cleared the land and built houses. Next came Jacob O. Smith, who built a home a short distance from the Turnpike.

Of these Rose brothers, Jacob J. and Garret served through the Rebellion, belonging to the 95th N. Y. V., and three other of the brothers, making five in all, served in the war for the Union. The others were Abram in the 48th N. Y. V.; David in the 17th N. Y. V., and John in the 6th Artillery. The latter lived in another part of Clarkstown, and was famous as a fox hunter. One morning he started off with his gun and dog for a day's sport, and, like Rip Van Winkle, did not come back again, nor was he ever heard from; and that was over twenty-five years ago.

CENTENARY.

Centenary is located a mile south of Haverstraw and derives its name from a Methodist Episcopal church built there in 1867. A Sunday school was started in the neighborhood in 1863 by Mrs. Martha Tremper. The first sessions were held in the house belonging to Jacob Weed. The first Superintendent was William H. Hyer, who held the position many years. The place is as yet an isolated farm district, having no railroad connection, but is not far distant from the line of the West Shore road.

THE DUTCH FACTORY.

Southeast of Spring Valley, and a suburb of that village, lies a settlement known as "The Dutch Factory," just over into the limits of Clarks-town. The factory building was first erected in about 1812 and was burned several times, each time being rebuilt. It has been used for various industries—the manufacture of cotton yarn, cotton blankets, candle wicks, mosquito netting and hat buckram, and brierwood pipes. After the factory property came in possession of Mr. Heyenga and several new houses were added to the neighborhood the place was known to many as Heyenga's, or Heyengaville, but the old name still clung to it as well. Near this place is a charcoal mill.

MOSESTOWN.

Mosestown is a familiar name for a locality lying north of Nanuet and east of the road to New City. As it is a rural neighborhood, without either a postoffice or a railroad, it has no official name, and in this it is much better off than if it had two names, not knowing which to choose as permanent, like a number of other places in the county. Small farms and gardens abound in the vicinity, where small fruit and summer vegetables are raised by the venders who travel to Nyack.

The German Presbyterian Church occupies a central location convenient for the German population hereabout and is well organized to maintain the language in its pulpit. The society was first organized as the Dutch Evangelical Church, in 1860, but was changed nine years later to the name it now bears and with a new start it began to prosper. The first Trustees were John Bardon, Herman Meyer and J. F. Eickhoff, and the first pastors were Revs. Warrenberger, Bartholomaeus Kruise, C. D. Rosenthal, George Loocke and John U. Tschudi.

QUASBEC.

On the south side of Rockland Lake and about one mile from the village of that name lies the scattered neighborhood of Quasbec, where a hotel and several summer boarding houses are located. Here the people from Nyack often come on fishing excursions and boats are kept to be let out for that purpose by parties living near the water. The road from Rockland Lake village winds around the south shore of the Lake and leads into the Boulevard running up the hill towards Nyack and crosses

at the Barmore house. At the shore, here, stood a school house many years ago which was started, according to tradition, as follows: An old resident, John Smith, lived in the neighborhood and owned a number of slaves. He set them at liberty soon after 1800 and converted their residence into a school house and where religious services were also held. It is said to have stood so near the water that the children sometimes caught fish out of the windows. Fishing has always been an attraction here, and there are also many fresh water springs near the lake where bullfrogs grow of immense size—larger than anywhere else in the world it is claimed—but the latter statement the writer would not be willing to vouch for. The view north from Quasbee takes in a magnificent landscape of hill and valley, mountain and lake, and is a picture of surpassing beauty to the eyes of all who visit the region.

SNEDEKER'S LANDING.

South of Haverstraw is a place which was once of considerable importance, known as Snedeker's Landing. A shipyard was started here in 1845 by Tunis M. and George W. Snedeker for the purpose of building and repairing vessels engaged in the brick trade, as the water was too shoal at Haverstraw and was of sufficient depth here. For a year or more the Haverstraw and New York steamboats stopped at the landing and business was brisk, but in a few years it declined, owing to the building of marine railways at Rockland Lake, Tomkins Cove and elsewhere, and for the last fifty years it has remained the same.

STRAWTOWN.

Strawtown and Rockland Brewery are familiar names to old residents of Clarkstown. Strawtown is a neighborhood north of Clarksville and east of the road to New City. In 1854 a store and shoe shop was started here by Nathaniel Burr, one of the pioneers of the shoe industry in this county. The brewery was built in 1855, but the business was carried on at an earlier date near that place.

Note—Acknowledgment is made for parts contributed by C. M. Oblenis, Emma K. Odell, P. Q. Eckerson, E. Gross, Aaron Ryder, Geo. E. Joyce, A. W. Van Keuren and G. W. Reimer.

Note—The Indian name Quaspeck, or Quaaspeake, has been simplified to Quasbee as the more convenient way of spelling it. Naurashaw, also an Indian word, is often spelled Naurashaun. Verdreitege is a Holland word, meaning "fearful," or something to be dreaded. By many it is spelled Verdredica.

CHAPTER XIX. TOWN OF RAMAPO.

By J. Bogert Suffern.

The Town of Ramapo embraces all that section of Rockland county lying between Clarkstown on the east, New Jersey on the south and the southern lines of Orange county and of the town of Haverstraw on the north and northwest; the junction of the Orange county and New Jersey lines being the northwesterly extremity of the town. It contains about thirty thousand acres of land, of which about one-half is mountain and very rough. Nearly all of that which is fit for cultivation lies to the east of the Mahwah river, whose source is a short distance to the northward of Ladentown, and which flows southwestward to the New Jersey line in the village of Suffern. Between this stream and Clarkstown is embraced all that is fit for cultivation, if we except a few small tracts lying in the Ramapo valley. The eastern section consists of a high plateau somewhat broken by valleys, which on the western side rises gradually from the Mahwah valley to a height of about three hundred feet, and its general trend is north and south.

This territory was included in the Precinct of Haverstraw from June 24th, 1719, until March 18th, 1788, when the name "precinct" was changed to "town." New Hempstead was erected from Haverstraw, March 18th, 1791. On March 3rd, 1797, the name was changed to Hempstead and finally to Ramapo, April 17th, 1829, which has proved so satisfactory that no suggestion of a change has been heard since.

These many changes have probably been made to avoid confusion between Hempstead, Long Island, and this one in Rockland county. The earliest and most numerous colony which came into the town were from Queens county, Long Island, and conferred the name of New Hempstead on the portion in which they settled. This section was called by the Indians Kakiat.

The Act by which the town was set off from Haverstraw reads as follows:

"From and after the first of April next (1791), all that part of the town of Haverstraw, in the county of Orange, bounded easterly by

Clarkstown, southerly by New Jersey, westerly by New Cornwall and northerly by a line running from the northeast corner of Clarkstown along the south bounds of the lands of Francis Gurnee and Benjamin Coe and along the north bounds of the land of Gabriel Conklin and Jonathan Seaman and the same course to the bounds of New Cornwall, shall be and hereby is erected into a distinct and separate town by the name of New Hempstead; and the first Town Meeting of the inhabitants of New Hempstead shall be held at the dwelling house of Theunis Cuyper.

The first town meeting of the newly formed town was held at the house of Theunis Cooper, near the "Brick Church" on the first Tuesday of April, 1791. The presiding Justices were Samuel Goetehius, Theunis Cooper and John Suffern and the following were chosen by the Freeholders to the several offices:

Supervisor, Gilbert Cooper; Town Clerk, Gilbert Cooper; Assessors, Abram Onderdonk, Garret Serven, Joseph Goetehius; Collector, Henry Howser; Overseers of the Poor, Abram Onderdonk, Aury Blauvelt; Commissioners of Highways, Jacob Deronde, Peter Van Houten, Albert Cooper; Constables, Albert Cooper, Joseph Lyon; Fence Viewers, Stephen Gurnee, James Onderdonk, Henry Young, John S. Coe, John Myer, Thomas Onderdonk; Poundmasters, Hendrik Wanamaker, Garret Eckerson and Johannes Smith."

In the fall of 1828 a meeting of Freeholders and inhabitants assembled at Cassady's Corner to prepare a memorial to the Legislature on the subject of a change of name for the town.

The meeting is reported to have been stormy; various names were proposed and reasons given for their adoption; Columbus was suggested; Denton, in honor of Abram Denton, the first man who settled in the town; another was Seamantown, after Jacomiah Seaman, the first white child born in the town; Ramapo, after the river and mountain of that name; New Antrim and Mechanicstown were also on the list.

Mechanicstown was finally chosen by a plurality of votes as the name to be suggested to the Legislature. Happily the voice of the plurality did not prevail, for through, as it is claimed, representation made by Mr. Jeremiah H. Pierson, the Legislature was induced to adopt the name "Ramapo."

It must be admitted that this action was wise. It officially perpetuates a name given by the aborigines to a most beautiful and historic river and chain of mountains. An old writer has said of the Ramapo river: "There is no stream in the world like it."

Regarding the title of lands in the town of Ramapo, Mr. Cobb states that the land was originally claimed by two States, New York and New Jersey, and under three different patents in New York, viz.: Kakiat, granted to Daniel Honan and Michael Howden, June 25th, 1686, the Wawayanda, granted to Dr. John Bridges, Hendrick Ten Eyck, Derick Vandenburg, John Cholwell, Christopher Den, Lancaster Symes, Daniel Honan, Philip Rokeby, John Merritt, Benjamin Aske, Peter Matthews and Cornelius Christian, Sr., April 29th, 1703, and the Cheesecoeks, granted to John Bridges, Hendrick Ten Eyck, Derick Vandenburg, John Cholwell, Christopher Den, Lancaster Symes and John Merritt, March 25th, 1707.

Second, that the controversy between Kakiat and Cheesecoeks was first settled, partially in 1727, and finally in 1771. By this last settlement the north line of Kakiat in the Town of Ramapo was made to begin at the edge of a large rock in the south branch of Minnies Falls stream. (This rock is north of Gurnee's Corner on land now or formerly of Mr. J. J. Jones.) From this rock the line runs in a course south 86 degrees 30 minutes west to a heap of stones erected for the northwest corner of the Kakiat Patent. The west line of said patent starts from this corner and runs south three degrees thirty minutes east over a mountain called "Round Hill" and crosses a large rock called "Horse Stable Rock" to "John Wood's Tree." John Wood's Tree, which stood about three-eighths of a mile from Tallman's station in a northeasterly direction, was an important landmark, being the starting point in the Kakiat, Harris and Provost Patents, and in later divisions of property in the town. Thence in a course south 45 degrees east, it crosses the New Jersey line a little to the east of the ninth mile-stone from the Hudson river. Hence the territory bounded on the north, west and south by the foregoing lines and on the east by Clarkstown, is within the Kakiat patent. In this are the villages of Monsey, Spring Valley, Viola, Ladentown and all of what is generally known as Hempstead.

Third. The line between New York and New Jersey was settled Oct. 7th, 1769, by a Commission appointed by the Crown, as being in



J. BOGERT SUFFERN.

Latitude 41 degrees 21 minutes 37 seconds, at the Delaware River, near Port Jervis, and 41 degrees north latitude at the Hudson river near Sueden's Landing. This settlement saved to the town of Ramapo a considerable amount of what is now most important territory, including the villages of Suffern, Hillburn and a portion of Ramapo. This decision was satisfactory to neither side, but was finally acquiesced in.

Fourth. The claims under the Wawayanda and Cheesecock patents to lands within the town were finally disposed of in 1786 by running a line from the northwest corner of the Kakiat patent, which corner was established as we have seen in 1771, in a direct course to the 31st milestone on the New Jersey line. This was run by Charles Clinton, son of General James Clinton, in 1786 and was called the Gore line. It is identical with the north line of the town and excludes both the Wawayanda and Cheesecock patents from Ramapo. The land bounded on the north and west by the Gore line, on the south by New Jersey and on the east by the Kakiat Patent was familiarly but not officially called the "Jersey Gore," and was virtually vacant, that is, was not covered by patents from either Colony or Crown.

Of this Gore Mr. Cobb says that he is indebted to Mr. B. Fernow, of the Department of Historical Records, Albany, for its history, which is here quoted:

"Blandina Bayard bought, August 10th, 1700, from the Indians five tracts of land called Ramapough, Jaapough, Jandekagh, Aringer and Camguce, three Dutch miles wide and four long, covering most of the land in the triangle of which the Gore Line is the northwest side. She improved and settled this land and at her death left it to her children, Petrus and Sarah. Petrus, and later his widow, lived on the land and continued improvements. When the widow removed she left a certain Lucas Kiersted as Superintendent; Kiersted was corrupted by Peter Somans, one of ten proprietors of East New Jersey, and induced to take out Jersey Patents for these lands, which had hitherto not been patented by New York, although Blandina Bayard had been promised a patent.

We will now consider this large section of the town, that is, the "Jersey Gore;" in it were but three persons having titles to their property which were recognized by the Crown or Colony. On March 12th, 1664, Charles II., King of England, granted to his brother, Duke of York, afterwards King James II., the entire region between the Connee-

tient and Delaware rivers, and, to remove any doubt regarding the Duke's title, confirmed the grant under date July 29th, 1674.

Under date of June 24th, 1664, the Duke of York sold what is now New Jersey to Lord Berkley and Sir George Carteret, confirming this title July 29th, 1674.

July 1st, 1676, Lord Berkley and Sir George Carteret divided New Jersey into two sections, called East and West New Jersey, by a line drawn from Little Egg Harbor to a point on the Delaware, in Latitude 41 degrees 40 minutes. Lord Berkley having West New Jersey and Sir George Carteret East New Jersey.

East New Jersey alone touches the Town of Ramapo; therefore it will require some further notice.

June 13th, 1680, Sir George Carteret died, directing in his will that East New Jersey should be sold to pay his debts; this was done, Feb. 2nd, 1682. William Penn and eleven associates, called the twelve proprietors, being the purchasers. Each of these took a partner and thus was constituted the body known as the Twenty-four Proprietors of East New Jersey. March 14th, 1682, the Duke of York made a new grant of East New Jersey to the Twenty-four Proprietors. The office of the East New Jersey Proprietors was and still remains at Perth Amboy.

On December 10th, 1709, Peter Somans, representing himself as Sole Agent, Superintendent, General Attorney and Receiver General of the rest of the Proprietors, but really only one of them as heir to his father Aerent, conveyed to John Aboineau, E. Bondinot, Peter Fancouier, L. Kiersted, John Barbarie, Thomas Barjaux, Andrew Fresman and Peter Bard, 42,500 acres in Northern New Jersey, lying between the Ramapo and Saddle Rivers, and called the Ramapo Tract. This tract extends from the mountains on the west side of the Ramapo river to the east side of the Saddle river, the north line cutting across the Ramapo Pass a little northwest of the Railroad Bridge near Ramapo Works, and in its course eastward passing to the north of Union Hill at Suffern and of Tallman's Station to the headwaters of the Saddle river, thence following that stream southward to the mouth of Hohokus creek, from thence westward to Pompton Falls at the Steel Works, and thence northward along the easterly brow of the Ramapo Mountains to the starting Point.

On November 6th, 1724, Peter Fanconier, John Barbarie & Company sold to John Zobrisco, 630 acres near the present Tallman's Station. Several years later the proprietors compromised with bona fide settlers on this tract, for twenty pounds per 100 acres, and on February 4th, 1744, Peter Fanconier conveyed all his remaining interest in the Ramapo tract to Theodore Balleau and David Stout, and on Aug. 10th, 1752, they conveyed the same to Magdeline Vallean, daughter of William Fanconier. The following year, March 29th, 1753, the East New Jersey Proprietors granted Magdeline Vallean 900 acres on condition that she release her claim to the remainder of the tract. By these several transactions the fraudulent grants of Peter Somans were disposed of and the Twenty-four Proprietors regained their rights.

On May 23rd, 1753, she conveyed to Conrad Wanamaker 105 acres of the 900 just granted her. In 1762, on February 12th, David Ackerman, who in some unknown way had obtained the same from the proprietors of East New Jersey, sold a mill right of about an acre to Jacobus VanBuskirk. The VanBuskirk grant is in the village of Suffern, near Judge Tilton's. When at length, in 1774, the line between New York and New Jersey was finally established, these three purchases were confirmed by the Government of New York.

Having shown how the grants to Zabrisco, Conrad Wanamaker and Van Buskirk were obtained within this vacant territory, we shall trace the balance of it, following Mr. Cobb quite literally:

On January 18th, 1775, the King granted patents to four reduced officers of the British Army, James Marcus Provost, Robert Harris, Jacob Muller and Peter Spence. These were all patented the same date and came just within the limit as the Constitution of the State of New York provided that all grants of land within the State by the King of Great Britain or his representatives, after the 14th day of October in that year, should be void. These were laid out by David Colden pursuant to a warrant from Lieutenant-Governor Colden.

THE PROVOST PATENT.

This patent begins in the New Jersey line, 7 chains and 43 links eastward from the ninth mile-stone from the Hudson river, running thence along the line of Honan & Howden or Kakiat Patent north 25 degrees 40 minutes, 335 chains and 30 links to a white oak tree common-

ly called "John Wood's Tree," thence north 60 degrees 37 minutes west 198 chains; thence south 45 degrees, west 66 chains and 60 links; thence north 54 degrees 10 minutes west 77 chains; thence 35 degrees 50 minutes west 73 chains to the New Jersey line, then south 54 degrees 10 minutes east 579 chains to the point of beginning. 5,000 acres.

The southeast corner of this tract is southeast of Monsey, the northeast corner is about one-half mile northeast from Tallman's Station at a point where lands of the late John Young and Martin Fresnan join. The northwest corner is the rear of houses of the Ramapo Iron Works in East Hillburn, and the southwest corner is in the State line on the mountain south of Hillburn.

From this grant are excepted the Zobrisko tract of 630 acres, which covers the hamlet of Tallmans, the one-acre mill right of VanBuskirk is in the village of Suffern, near Judge Tilton's house, and the Conrad Wanamaker tract of 105 acres, and includes all of Suffern and part of Hillburn.

The description of the Harris Patent begins at John Wood's tree and runs along the west line of the Kakiat Patent north 40 degrees west 247 chains and 60 links, thence south 45 degrees west 205 chains to the north bounds of the Provost tract, thence along the same south 60 degrees 77 minutes east 198 chains, to the place of beginning and contained 2,000 acres.

If we draw a line from the John Wood's Tree (which as previously stated is about one-half mile northeast from Tallman's Station) northerly to a point near the residence of the late Elias G. Sherwood, thence westerly across the valley of the Mahwah (Moway), to a point a little up from the base of the mountain, thence southwesterly along the face of the mountain to the Provost Patent line, about opposite the residence of the late Henry T. Young, and thence easterly along the Provost Patent line to our starting point, we should describe the territory embraced in the Harris Patent and one of the most attractive sections of the town of Ramapo.

The Muller Patent is thus described: Beginning in the New Jersey line at the southwesterly corner of the Provost Tract 11 chains and 57 links westward from the 16th milestone and running along the lands laid out for James Marcus Provost, north 35 degrees 50 minutes east 73 chains and south 54 degrees 10 minutes 23 chains, thence north 36

degrees 160 chains, thence north 54 degrees 10 minutes west 142 chains and 40 links, thence south 36 degrees west 233 chains to the New Jersey line, thence along the same south 54 deg. 10 min. 119 chains and 60 links to the point of beginning, containing 3,000 acres. This tract takes in the greater part of what is now the village of Hillburn, Ramapo, and the mountains on both sides of the valley up to about the Sterling Railroad.

The Spence tract is described as follows:

Beginning in the New Jersey line at the most westerly corner of the Muller tract 28 chains and 83 links eastward from the 18th milestone running from thence along the westerly bounds of Muller's tract north 36 deg. east 233 chains, thence north 54 deg. 10 min. west 59 chains and 60 links; thence south 50 deg. west 185 chains, thence south 12 deg. east 40 chains to Potague (Negro) Pond, thence along the same pond south 35 deg. west 27 chains to the New Jersey line; thence along the same south 54 deg. 10 min. east 74 chains and 33 links, to the place of beginning. (1820).

The Spence Patent covered the most of the lands in the northwest angle of the town, including Negro and Sheppard Ponds sections; Sloatsburgh and a portion of Stony Brook Valley.

Each of the patentees were required to yield and pay yearly to the King, through his representatives in New York, the yearly rent of two shillings and six pence sterling, after the 18th day of January, 1785, on every 100 acres, and in proportion for a less amount.

The Revolution disposed of the rights of the Crown, which passed to the State, and the last clause in these grants gave rise to claims of the State for quit rents which were exacted for many years and which were finally commuted by the payment of 14 shillings gross, for every shilling of yearly rent.

On the 5th day of April, 1775, James Marcus Provost sold his entire patent for two hundred pounds to Robert Morris, John Delancey and John Zabriskie, and on June 4th, 1776, John Zabriskie sold his interest to Morris and Delancy for two hundred pounds.

The Harris, Muller and Spence patents came into the possession of these two gentlemen in like manner, they thus becoming the source of all valid titles to land in these tracts.

This John Zabrisco or Zabriskie was probably a son of Albert Saboroweski, who emigrated from Poland to America in the Dutch ship "Fox" in 1662, and settled at Hackensack and was the progenitor of the numerous and influential family of that name in New York city, Long Island and New Jersey.

Robert Morris was the financier of the Revolution and signer of the Declaration of Independence. At one time he pledged his personal credit for supplies for the army to the amount of \$1,400,000.00, but in later years became involved in land speculations which resulted ruinously, and the last years of his life were spent in confinement for debt. John Delancy belonged to the brilliant family of that name in New York city.

Besides Messrs. Morris and Delancy, John Jay and Lawrence Kortright became joint owners of these tracts, their several interests being: Robert Morris, 3-11; John Delancy, 4-11; John Jay, 2-11, and Lawrence Kortright, 2-11. Kortright seems to have held one of his elevenths in trust for John Harper of Harpersfield, Montgomery county. John Suffern was a large purchaser of these lands and acted as agent on the ground and later held an interest as one of the joint owners, having purchased Harper's interest.

After these tracts had been disposed of there still remained in the extreme west and northwest part of the town, land to be accounted for, which was done by the Legislature of the State of New York by an act passed March 28th, 1800, as follows:

Whereas, John Hattrom, Peter Townsend, William Hans, Hezekiah Mead, Samuel Drew, Ezra Sanford, James McCann, William Booth, Daniel Benedict, Abner Paterson, William Ellis, David Sandford, Thomas Sandford, David Hawkins, Samuel Ketchum, Harry Wisner, Henry Bush, Samuel Bush, Abram Smith, John Smith, Adolphus Shuart, Nicholas Conklin, John Beecraft and John Jenkins, by their petition presented to the Legislature have stated that they are settled on and have improved in Orange county (which at the time the petition was made included Rockland county) under the proprietors of the Patent of Wawayanda, which lands have been adjudged to be unpatented and to belong to the people of the State, and are included with other lands not settled or improved, as aforesaid, within the following boundaries, to wit: southerly by the State of New Jersey; northerly by a line (the Gore

line) running from the thirty-first (31st) mile-stone in the line of division, between this State and the State of New Jersey to a monument erected by Commissioners at the northwest corner of a tract of land granted to Daniel Honan and Michael Howden, called Kakiat, and easterly and southerly by patented land, and by their said petition have prayed that they may be quieted in their said possession and to purchase in addition thereto such other quantity of vacant land within the boundaries aforesaid, and on such terms as the Legislature shall direct.

Therefore, be it enacted by the people of the State of New York represented in the Senate and Assembly that it shall and may be lawful for the Surveyor General to grant to each of the petitioners above named, the estate, rights, title and interest of the people of this State, of, in and to the lands improved by them respectively with such other vacant land within said boundaries of not less than one hundred (100) acres, and not more than four hundred (400) acres, including their respective improvements, they paying therefor, not less than the sum of twenty-five cents (25c.) per acre.

By this Act was the whole so-called vacant section brought under valid title either by the Crown or by the State.

Following additional lands sold according to an old document:

	Acres.	
Dorrethy Campbell.....	124-2	0
Matice Barbaro	192-2	7
Yost Buskirk	61-3	15
Vacant	40-0	0
Jacob and Anthony May.....	116-2	30
Frozingar	23-2	0
Darrick Wanamaker	144-2	15
Garrat Ackerman	203-1	30
Philip Fox	177-0	0
John Shuirts	75-3	30
Widow Sixco	105-2	20
Adam Dater	99-3	0
Sam'l Sixco	104-0	0
Joseph Conklin	160-0	46
Lodweek Shomaker	91-1	30
Joseph Conklin	44-0	20
Peter Fredrick	240-0	05

Hendrick Wanamaker	211-0	77
Nicholas Carlough	166-0	00
John Suffern	322-0	00
Lawrence V Buskirk	317-2	2
Hendrick Esler	101-0	8
John Suffern	27-3	0
Peter Easterly	7-0	0
for meeks	94-0	0
John Suffern	260-0	0
Adolphus Wanamaker, fredr.	50-0	0
Thomas Banta	82-2	0
Martin Bush	20-2	4

On the reverse side of the above document we find the following:

“Acres.

142 to Shuirts; Smith, John; John Slott, Gilbert Smith.

Land Sold by

Morris & Delaney.”

Although there is little accurate information regarding the subject, still we have evidence that many of the names now familiar in this part of our town were represented here at a date much earlier than the patents of Provost and Harris were granted, or than at which the boundary between New York and New Jersey was finally established. It is probable that many settlers about the section of which Suffern is the center thought they had some sort of title from East New Jersey. The following will shed some light on this, and is of interest for that reason as well as from the fact that it is the first agreement for the purchase of land by one who became the owner of so much:

“Article of agreement made this fifteenth day of May in the thirteenth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third by the Grace of God, King of Great Britain France & Ireland &c and in the year of our Lord Christ one Thousand Seven Hundred and seventy Three Between Conrad Fredrick Senor of the Toneship of Frenklin in the County of Bargain and Eastern Division of New Jersey of the one part & John Suffern of the County & Province aforesaid witnesseth the said Conrad Fredrick Senor for & Inconsideration of the sum of five-Pounds Currant Lawful money to him in Hand Paid before the Insealing & Delivering of These Presents the Receipt of which he Doth Eck-

nowledge himself to be full Ly Contented & paid of and from Every Part and Pericele thereof Do Sell all his Right Title and Intrest of Possession or Claim thereto by Leace or otherwise to the said John Suffern and his heirs and assigns for ever all that Certain said Lott or Pericele of Land Belonging to Lott Now in Ramapo Patton or Between the New and old Jersey Lines & to the Northward of the fence along the Kings Road as the Road now Runs beginning at a small Blackoak Tree in the fence of Conrad fredrick to the southward of the Road and Runing cross the Road with a Direct North Line till it strikes Peter easterlys line thence westerly as the Lott line Runs till it comes in a direct Line with a black oak Tree and a staik in the fence both marked with Three notches with all and singuler the Premises the said Conrad Fredrick Do aquite and forever Quit claim to the said John Suffern and his heirs for ever & assigns But it is further understood by these Presents that if the said Conrad Fredrick him or his heirs or assigns should Purchase the Lott out of which this small Lott belongs from any of the Proprietors of the Land that he she or they Shall whenever Demanded of them after they have gott a deed in fee simple for the Said Lott that then he she or the shall give as good a deed in writing to the Said John Suffern his heirs or assigns as he she or they shall or may have for the Heirs said John Suffern paying in Proportion for his as the do for their writings & survey on Penalty of paying all the Damages that may occur in Witness whereof we the above parties hereunto Set our hands and seals the day and year above writteen.

Scaled & Delivered in presents of us

his

Conrad X Frederick Jun'r

mark

Thomas Boggs.

Conrad Friedrich.

On the reverse side of the original of the above document is written the following:

"It is Likewise understood by the within writing that the fence of Conrad Fredrick Sen'r Shall Stand where it is and is his full Property and will not Give any of the Road."

Article of Land
in
Haverstraw Mountain.

On September 21st, 1739, Charles Clinton, in his journey from Van Dusers in the Clove to Edward Jeffer's near the 9th milestone observed near Suffern, houses and settlements on every side. On the Zabrisco tract near Tallmans he saw the house of Samuel Francisco and those of Solomon Peterson and his brother Jacob, all three free negroes. Further to the westward he must have seen the stone house of Philip Vors (Fox) built in 1726, which stood near the 14th milestone, where the house of David Fox now stands. The foundation of this old house forming a part of the present structure now owned and occupied by Mr. David Fox.

There is no doubt that this Philip Vors was the first settler in this part of the town; he built his first house about 1700.

Entering the Clove, John Suffern was the first purchaser of what is now the village bearing his name, as well as of the territory of Hillburn as far up as the railroad bridge across the Ramapo river. In this was a small section which had been occupied by John Jenkins, which was located in a cove of the east mountain now known as East Hillburn.

Of the part which includes Ramapo and Sloatsburgh, Mr. Cobb tells us that one John Van Blareum purchased of "the natural and lawful Indian proprietors of all the lands lying on both sides of the Ramapo river" 400 acres English measure, and that this tract passed into the hands of Isaac Van Duser and was sold by him to Samuel Sidman, from whom the name of the pass "Sidman's Clove" is derived. At the death of Samuel Sidman the west part of this tract came into the possession of his son-in-law, John Smith, and was sold by him to John Suffern in 1789, reserving in the deed 5 acres, the eastern part of the Van Blareum tract came into the ownership of John and Joseph Brown. This tract was sold by them to John Suffern, who completed his title by purchasing the rights of Morris & Delancy and associates. Lewis and John Shuart purchased from the Indians a tract on the west side of the Ramapo river at the railroad bridge; their stone house stood a short distance beyond the river until the Erie Railroad in 1852 built its double track, when it was taken down to accommodate changes which the railroad then made in its line.

We now come to the upper end of the valley within the town which includes Sloatsburgh. For this we go back to a deed given by the Indians to Wynant VanGelder and which is in the possession of Mr. Henry



Jer. H. W. Peirson

R. Sloat, and is probably the only original deed in existence from the Indians for land within the town. As a relie it deserves to be republished and is here copied from Mr. Cobb's history and is as follows:

"Whereas I, Manis, Wacken, Sewes, Ayco, Nakama, Being by all nature proprietor of a certain tract of Land Laying at a plas caled Pot-hat Beginning at a Rok so alan the moutan to a wit oak tree marked on fower sids from dans all alalang the Lyn of John Van Blarecom's ws to a Black oak tree marked from dans kraus the Rever to brok by an austree standin on the est side of Brook, from dans all alalang the brok against the strem to a wit pin tree marked on for sied from dans to a brok against the strem to a hakkerre tree marked on for sids from dans allang the mountain to the bons of Ysack Van Dusen to a blak oak tree marked, from dans allang the ling of Ysack to a rok waer it first began, and have from generation to generation held the same in peaceable and quit possession mollestation of any poina or potantate whatsoever, now Bee it know unto all people and nations unto whom this present Writing Shall or may Come that I the said Manis by the ConSent of my friends and Relations as our manner is, viz, Wacken, Sawes, Ayco, nakama, have given grandded and freely Conveyed and for Dives good causes, valueble Consideration thirunto esyenally moveing freely fully and absolutely give grant and make over unto Wynnant Vangelder of the County of Bergen and province of East New Gersey Subject to the good and great king of England our Royal friend and Alie and their heirs and assignss for Ever all that picee or percell of the above mentioned Land butted and bounded with all and Singular its Rights titles and privilegdges and appertaing with all ponds, pools, medows, marshes swamp brook creeks coves watters watter courses woods under woods timber timber trees Stonse and quarries of stons ways passages Eastments proffits Commodias whatsoever as hawing fishing fowling to have and to hold the Said Land and premises with all and Singular the before mentioned appurtaneces unto the said Wynnant Vangelder his heirs their heirs and assigns for Ever and we the Said Manis, Waeken, Sewes, Ayco, Nakama do for ourselves and our heirs and every of us Covenant grant and agree to and with the Said Wynnant Van Gelder his heirs and assigns the peaceable and quiet possession of the above granted land and premises with their appurtenances and Every part and perecell against all person and persons Lawfully Claiming any Right or title in and to the Same not at all questioning the

good King of England in his great justice his Rattifiein and Confirming the same to the use wee hereby intand and not other whatsoever.

In testimony where of we have according to the English manner set our hands and fixed our seels this the 7th day of March in the year of our Lord and Saviour 1737-8 and in the Eleventh year of the Raigne of our Sovereigne Lord the good and great King of England garge the Saxkond over England Scotland francee and Irland defend of the faith. Sealed and delivered in present of us

Abram Leron

her
Annage X Leron
mark

his
Ma A nis (s)
mark
his
Wac —Tan (s)
mark
his
Se O WeS (s)
mark
his
Ag D lo (s)
mark
his
Naka L Wa (s)
mark

The good King of England did not, in his great justice, ratify and confirm this grant, for the Crown issued Letters Patent for all the lands in this part of the Ramapo Valley, including those covered by this unique deed, to Jacob Muller and Peter Spence.

Wynant Van Gelder conveyed this tract to his son-in-law, Isaac Van Duser, June 13th, 1747. Van Duser was probably the first settler in the Ramapo Valley, for James Clinton, while making his survey of Cheesecock's Patent makes note that he lodged with Van Duser in ye Clove, September 21st, 1739.

Van Duser conveyed the tract on June 3rd, 1763, to his son-in-law, Stephen Sloat. The last two conveyances were made by assignments on the original deed. The first was witnessed by David Ogden and Peter Cloover, the second by Thomas VanBuskirk and George Dearman.

The first settlers in the Hempstead section were the members of the company of men who in 1711 purchased the north moiety of Kakiat patent. They were almost all from Queens county, Long Island. The first one to arrive was Abram Denton, a descendant of Daniel Denton, who about 1660 wrote the first description of the Province of New York. He was followed by Jonathan and Joseph Seaman. Others of this company were Chas. Mott, William and John Osborne, sons of Thomas Osborne; John and Joseph Wood and Cornelius Cooper, who was the son of Klass Jans Van Purvament, one of the early Dutch settlers of Tappan. His trade was that of a cooper. Hence his name, Cornelius Klaassen, Cuyper or Cornelius, son of Klass, the Cooper. Guisbert, son of Cornelius Cooper, was the father of Gilbert and Theunis Cooper, who were so prominent in the affairs of our town.

The ubiquitous Irishman was there also, in the person of William Smith, Esq. His tombstone is in "Brick Church" Cemetery, on which it is stated that he was born March 17th, 1745 O. S., died September 23rd, 1794. He was raised to the Sublime degree of a Royal Arch Mason in his youth. His conduct through life manifested that his principles were truly Republican. The site of his house is shown on Erskine's map of the old King's road between Suffern and Haverstraw. It is surmised that it was his son Frederick Smith who erected, in 1787, the old stone house standing about a mile northeast of the "Brick Church," in which Nelson Hopkins formerly lived. Mr. Hopkins was a descendant of Stephen Hopkins, a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

Other dates found on tombstones at this church are these:

Haunes Smith, died 8th 1794, aged 79 y, 4 m and 2 d.

Dr. Nicholas Slype, born in Dort, Holland, February 18th, 1763; died April 16th, 1817.

Jacobus Waldron, died Dec. 2nd, 1814, aged four-score years.

Aaron Blauvelt, born Sept. 12th, 1738; died March 8th, 1801.

Cornelius A. Blauvelt, died Feb. 25th, 1843; aged, 76 y. 4 m. 1 d.

James Onderdonk, born July 20th, 1752; died Aug. 16th, 1806.

Adrian Onderdonk, died Oct. 12th, 1818, aged 86 y. 7 m. 26 d.

Adrian Onderdonk, Jr., died Jan. 31st, 1835, aged 78 y. 9 m. 26 d.

The family of Onderdonk so prominent in our town are all descended from Adrian Onderdonk, a contemporary with Charles Mott, who lived in Jamaica, Long Island, in 1711.

In 1724 John VanBlareom purchased 400 acres from the Indians in Ramapo Clove.

The following is a copy of a memorandum lately found among the papers of John Suffern, and will throw light on the early sales in the territory embraced in these tracts as well as others:

	Acres	
Barn. Fushier	03	30-100.
David Eckerson	219-1-	20
Sam'l Banta	150-2-	0
Peter Eckerson	143-1-	20
David Eckerson	135-0-	0
V. Blareom	3-0-	20
Conrad Wanamaker	46-0-	16
Hendrick Shulters	92-3-	0
John Bush	259-2-	0
Anthony Crouber	105-3-	30
John Post	74-2-	15
No oner	25-0-	35

RAMAPO IN THE REVOLUTION.

The situation of Rockland county, lying as it does at the southern base of the Highlands and bordered on its east side from the New Jersey line at Sneden's Landing, opposite Dobbs Ferry, to a point a short distance south of West Point, by the Hudson river, and on the south by the open country of Northern New Jersey, which last was often occupied by parties of British, and their friends, the royalists, made it peculiarly subject to raids. The possession of the Highlands, natural fortifications as they were, was guarded with the greatest solicitude by leaders of the American forces.

Through these natural fortifications were three breaks or passes. The central and most important one was, of course, the Hudson river; the eastern one was from Peekskill across the hills into Dutchess county, and the third was the Ramapo valley, which was the highway on the western side between lower Orange county and New Jersey and all the country north of the Highlands as far up as Albany and beyond.

This valley is in Revolutionary correspondence referred to as the Clove, Sidman's Pass, Sydman's Clove, Ramapough Pass, Ramapo Clove and Ramapo. Ramapo was spelled in various ways, according to the ideas of the writers, but Ramapough was the most general. In its general course this valley is parallel to that of the Hudson river and is in direct line distant from it from 14 to 16 miles, and is about 16 miles in length; that is, from Suffern, which is at its southern entrance, to where it opens out into the cultivated country of Orange county, between Arden and Turners Stations, it is about 16 miles. The lower five miles of this clove or pass crosses the entire width of the town of Ramapo.

It must be remembered that Rockland county was, in its early history, a part of Orange county, and was at that time the most populous portion of that county.

Through this valley flows the Ramapo river, which has its source in a pretty little lake near the village of Monroe, and flowing southward collects the waters of several mountain lakes and streams. At Suffern it crosses into New Jersey, where a short distance south of the line it receives the waters of the Mahwah, formerly called the Haverstraw, and following along the east base of the New Jersey Highlands to Pompton, joins the Passaic river.

It was at a very early date in the war that this section received notice from those in authority on the American side and measures were taken to fortify and defend the pass. In Revolutionary correspondence the locality of these works is referred to as Sidman's Bridge, it being near where the old post road crossed the Ramapo river, a short distance below the residence of Samuel Sidman, who was one of the early settlers in the valley. The works here consisted of two lines of intrenchments and a small redoubt or fort. The location of the fort is shown on Erskine's map and was somewhere near the site of the present Pierson homestead.

The one line of intrenchments is still in good preservation on the east side of the river, about one hundred yards below the railroad bridge, and the second line, also in good state of preservation, is on the west side and across a narrow pass between a separate mountain spur and the main range. Behind these lines is smooth and moderately level land, and here were built comfortable log houses for the troops and stores.

Under date of Nov. 21st, 1776, Colonel Jedadiah Huntington, in command of a Pennsylvania regiment, writes to his son:

"I am now at Sedman's Bridge, on Ramapo river, in Precinct of Haverstraw, Orange county, New York, twenty miles in a southwesterly direction from Peekskill, on Hudson's river, 20 miles from Hackensack town, which lies on the river of that name that empties its waters into Newark Bay, about ten miles below Hackensack town. We hear to-day that the enemy are at Hackensack new bridge, about two miles below the town, and that our army have taken up the bridge to prevent their passage. I expect to be stationed in this place all winter. Have orders to build barracks for my men, which I am doing with logs. They make homely, but very warm habitations. Your uncle David was glad to sleep in them in his journey to Susquehanna. I am in good health."

It seems worth while to enlarge somewhat on the history of this post in view of the importance attached to its defence by Gen. Washington, Gen. George Clinton and others in authority. This will be done mainly by quotations from "The Public Papers of George Clinton." The earliest reference we have to this is in a letter of George Clinton to Gen. Heath, which is dated:

Ramapough, 1st of January, 1776.

Dear General:—I have been greatly distressed since you left this quarter; when I arrived at this post I found there was not sufficient supply of provisions. The commissary had not been notified of our coming and of course had provided only for the ordinary number of the Garrison. This and other causes too tedious to mention greatly Disgusted the Militia and occasioned many to go home much displeased.

A number of the enemy soon after arrived at Hackensack, amounting to between 5 and 800, consisting of Regulars and Buskirk's Regiment, imprisoned and otherwise insulted the few friends we left there and soon after to Pyramus, plundered some of the Inhabitants of that place and took the Hoppers and others of that neighborhood, who are now confined in Hackensack Goal, and have since committed many Acts of Cruelty on the Inhabitants. I keep out large patrolling parties every night in that neighborhood for the Protection of the Inhabitants, but the enemy have so good Intelligence of our thoughts and every motion that it is beyond my power to give protection to the well disposed inhab-



Henry L. Pearson

itants in any other way than by routing the Enemy from their present Quarters, which I have hitherto not had strength to attempt with a probability of success.

The Militia are now, however, daily returning with spirit to their duty and had I only a couple of Field Pieces I flatter myself I should be able to drive the Rebels out of this Quarter of the Country. I begg therefore, my Dear Sir, that you will be good enough to order Capt. Bryan and Lieut. Jackson to join me with two Field Pieces assigned to my former Brigade, in which case I have no reason to doubt but I shall be able to attack these parricides with success; at all events I dare be answerable for the safety of the artillery. If you indulge me in this request, the sooner the greater probability of success. I am with Compliments of the Season and Due Respect,

Your Affectionate, Humble Serv't.,

GEORGE CLINTON.

I have certain Accounts just now received that the Enemy are 600 strong; on Sunday they had no Artillery, but have sent for Three Pieces.

Under date of Ramapough, 23rd of December, 1776, General Clinton writes to the convention concerning the lack of arrangements to supply his troops at that place with provisions. Whole regiments had for days been without any except such scanty supplies as they have been able to purchase from the inhabitants. That Tyler's and Huntington's Pennsylvania troops were there, but would leave in a day or two.

He adds: "The Militia think they are ill used and I am sorry to say that in my opinion they have great Reason to complain. They declare they will go home & leave me. Many have already gone, nor can I expect but that the rest will be as good as their word. Indeed, they must desert or starve & howe'r well disposed they will not submit to the latter."

Again on the same date and from the same place, he writes to Col. Hathorn as follows:

"Dear Sir:—I have received yours of this day's date and approve of your conduct in drawing your force into one compact body above the

meeting of the three roads. I had received this morning Intelligence from Hackensack nearly agreeing with yours, but doubted the truth of it. I have ordered Col. Hornbeck's Regiment to Clarkstown; they are there before this and will be able to sustain you. I begg you will keep out large scouting Parties who will not only prevent your being surprised, but give Protection to the Inhabitants. I doubt not you will receive the Enemy properly should they come your way. I am,

Your Most Obedient,

GEO. CLINTON.

You must try to supply yourselves with provisions a few days, when I hope we shall be provided regularly by a Commissary, as I have wrote to Convention in a most pressing Manner on the subject. I have 2 companies at Pyramus this day. If they make any discoveries you shall hear from me & I begg you will give me the Earliest Intelligence of every new discovery you make of the Disposition and Strength of the Enemy.

Under date of December 28th, 1776, he wrote from Ramapough that he was at that moment honored with the commands of the Convention. That he was sorry that he could not have dismissed such of the Militia whose families were greatly distressed by their absence. That it was now too late, they had gone without leave. He writes: "I made the most of the little influence added to the authority I had over them to induce them to continue, but it was in vain & it is with pain I repeat it such numbers have deserted me that if I continue the regiments I have at Orange Town (& it would be cruel to call them from thence and leave the inhabitants exposed to the Enemy), I can't be answerable for the Defence of this Post, especially in our scattered situation, occupying a compass of more than six miles round; and this is unavoidable as there is not a single barrack finished for the troops to live in & the weather too cold to lay in tents and tho' there is a Redoubt & line so far compleated as to be well defended, we have not a single piece of Artillery."

Letter of Major Pawling to Major Jansen:

Ramapough, December 26th, 1776.

D'r. Sir:—I am directed to order you to move Regiment under your command as near this Place as you can conveniently quarter them. The

houses from Severyn's Tavern at this Place down to Kakiate are not occupied by any other troops. I would have you be as expeditious on your March as possible.

From Sir Your Friend & Hub'l Serv't.,

ALBERT PAWLING,

To Major Jansen.

Major of Brigade.

General Clinton to Colonel Day:

Ramapough, Dec'r. 26th, 1776.

Sir:—I am just now credibly informed that about 500 of the Enemy consisting of Highlanders and Bushkerks of New Tory Levies entered Hackensack & committed many Acts of Cruelty on the few well disposed Inhabitants of that Place, and unless proper Measures are speedily taken to prevent, it is more than probable they will extend their Depredations to the Adjacent Neighborhoods. I am stationed here with Part of the Militia of the Counties of Ulster and Orange, of the State of New York, & principally intended to guard the Passes of the Highlands. At the same time to overawe the disaffected Inhabitants. This I am heartily disposed to do; but my Numbers are too small to effect it — I am obliged to extend my Guards to Orange Town & Cloister (Closter), which so scatters my Force that I have not sufficient Numbers left to march out against the Enemy, consistent with the safety of the Passes I have most particularly in Charge. I submit it to you, Sir, whether the Militia of your County in this Quarter ought not to be immediately Called out & embodied for their own Defence, in which case I will add such strength to them from my Brigade as will be Competent for driving those Paracides out your Country. I believe many of your People will cheerfully join us if ordered, which I wish may be speedily done.

I am your Most Obed't Serv't.,

To Colonel Theunis Day.

G. C.

MILITIA ORDERED TO TAPPAN.

Sir:—I am directed by General George Clinton to order you immediately to embody your Regiment and March down to Tappan (leaving

such whose absence will be greatly injurious to their Families and Interest at Home) and there wait for further orders. Col. Dye, of Bergen County, has been requested to call out & embody his Militia, who has given the Necessary orders for that Purpose.

I am your Humb'e Servant,
ALBERT PAWLING,
Major of Brigade.

Dec. 28th, 1776, Ramapough.

Extract of letter from Gen. Clinton to Col. Tusten:

Ramapough, 30th December, 1776.

D'r. Sir:— I had scouting parties last night and night before below Pyramus; that of last night is just returned; the Intelligence they have received of the Enemy at Hackensack differs exceedingly from yours; the highest don't make their whole Numbers, including Tories, exceed 500, & indeed many not near the least Number. However, it is good to guard against the most & by all means prevent Surprise by keeping out Day & Night Patrolling Parties far advanced, & vigil centries. I have ordered out the Militia of Orange on the south side of the Mountains to reinforce you, & I wrote Colo. Heathorn empowering you to meet & make any new Disposition of the Different Regts. in your Quarter you might judge Necessary, which is all I can do at present. It is not my fault; I can't do more. Had the Militia turned out & continued with me, we could have drove these Parracides out of the Country, but alas many have basely deserted me. Genl. Washington's Army on the 27th attacked the Enemy at Trenton & took 919 prisoners, 16 Brass Cannon; 1,300 stand of small arms, with many other valuable stores; killed 50; with loss on our side of 3 only; this is true.

I am yours sincerely,
GEO. CLINTON.

Col. Benj'n Tusten.

Note—This date is wrong. The battle of Trenton was fought Dec. 26th, 1776.

Journal of March of Col. James McClavery's Regiment in New Jersey:

January 1, 1777.

A Journal of the Campaign of Coll. James McCloughey Regt. Down to the Jersyes:

On Dec'r. 13th, 1776. Marched from Home and Quartered at June's, in Smith's Clove.

14th, Marched over the Mountain and Quartered at Van Howlen's, in New Hempstead.

15th, Made Returns.

16th, Procured Provisions.

17th, Got orders to March.

18th, Marched to Pyramus and Quarter'd at Happers (Hoppertown).

19th, Sent a Detachment of 550 men, sent to English Neighborhood out of our Regt. 150.

20th, At Night Brought in 23 Tories, 19 stand of Arms, 1 Wagon and 9 Horses.

21st, Nothing strange.

22nd, Marched to Ramerpugh, said night mounted a Cap'n. guard.

23rd, Nothing.

24th, Slaughtered Three fatt Cattle.

25th, General orders to give no more furlows, Several Cpts. furlow at their own Risk; A Court Marshall held at Sufferance (Suffern's); out of our Regt. Major Phillips and 5 Capt.; at Night a scout Required, consisting of 1 Maj'r & a Capt's guard; When Paraded orders Countermanded.

26th, Snow storm all day, clears up at night, Andrew McCord appointed Quartermaster.

27th, A scout of 50 Men sent toward Hackensack for observation out our Regt.; they go as far as Pyramus Church. Return at Night, Brings News the Enemy are within a few miles of that Place; Genr. Clinton calls a counsel of war, Determines to send one Commissioned officer out of each company to Bring Back the Deserters & the Remainder of the Regt. John Robinson hat fashioned.

28th, One officer sent out of Each Company to Bring up Dellinquents and Deserters, to Return January 1st, 1777.

Sunday, 29th, A scouting party of about 600 men, with 32 of the Sopas Light Horse, sent under Major ———; Made little or no discovery; at Coll. McCoughry's Quarters we form a guard of Officers & stand our turn as sentinels these two Nights past.

During this campaign of Gen. Clinton against the enemy in and about Paramus and Hackensack and of which the Post at Ramapo was the headquarters, he labored under many discouragements and difficulties. Scanty provisions for his troops, desertions and failure of levies to respond were not all of them. He desired to wage an aggressive campaign, and with this in view he asked Gen Heath for the loan of two field pieces, which were refused him. Upon this refusal he wrote Gen. Heath a sharp letter under date of 2nd January, 1777, in which he sums up his disappointments and troubles in very plain language.

On January 4th, 1776, a General Court Martial was convened at the house of "Mr. Sovereigns" (Suffern). Col. Ehnendorf was the president and Capt. Vail Judge Advocate. George Tongue and John Macdole were brought before the Court charged with plundering on the late expedition to Paramus and Hackensack. The verdict of the Court was as follows: "And the Court is unanimously of the opinion that said George Tongue with John Macdole took the blankets or rug through ignorance, not knowing it was against orders and that they shall return the said blankets or rug to Major Talor."

Severyn's (Suffern's) Tavern, near Ramapough
6th January, 1777.

General Clinton to Gen. Heath:

Dear General:—I came out here this morning intending to order the Troops under my Command at this Place to immediately advance to Pyramus, with an intention the next Day to attack the Enemy at Hackensack, in case the Field Pieces arrived by that time, one of which I intend to have sent to Tappan, where, and at Cloister (Closter), more than one-half of my Force is, to have fixed an Hour and attacked them on that & this side at the same Instant, sending at the Same Time parties to the East Side of the Ferry & on the Aquackanonk road to prevent their escape. But I had not been here long before a Messenger arrived who informed me that the Enemy yesterday Afternoon, apprehensive of an attack (as they said), left the Town with the utmost Precipitation & fright in three Parties, each taking different Routs, to wit, one towards



THOMAS W. SUFFERN.

Aequackanonk, another by the Ferry, and the Third through the English Neighborhood. They have disappointed me exceedingly. I am sure I could have destroyed the whole of them had they only continued there two Days longer, or I been prepar'd so much sooner.

I have sent down a strong Party to possess the Town & secure such stores as they may have left & bring in the Tories, who are much dejected. They have released the Hoppers & other Inhabitants they had in Prison. The enclosed Letter was wrote a few hours before they fled & since delivered to me.

I am Your Most Obed't Serv't.,

(Gen. Heath.)

GEORGE CLINTON.

Under same date and from the same place Gen. Clinton writes to the Provincial Congress to the same effect as the preceding, but adding the news of the battles of Trenton and Princeton, and that General Washington was going into winter quarters at Morristown.

Letter of Gen. B. Lincoln to Gen. Clinton:

Sunday (Jan., 1777).

Dear General:—The bearer, Coll. Sparhawk, commands the detachment of Militia from Massachusetts Bay ordered to join you. I should not do you justice should I ask your notice of him, and that you would grant every indulgence to his corpse (sic) which the good of the service will admit; as that would suggest I entertained an idea that a different mode of conduct could take place. I know I have said enough when I inform you that these troops are to be under your particular direction. They are lovers of freedom & are determined to fight in support of it.

I am, dear General, with most perfect regard and esteem,

General Clinton.

B. LINCOLN.

Gen. Clinton to Col. Sparhawk:

Sir:—I am at this moment favored with advice of your arrival at Ramepough by letter from my good Friend, Gen'l. Lincoln. The Field Pieces I would have in or near the little Redoubt on the other side of Sydman's Bridge, at present the men belonging to them may Quarter in the little Houses Near that Place. As to your Regiment, as there are yet no Barracks finished, you must get them in the Houses on this

side of Severn's Tavern, where I understand you now are. I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you to-morrow & am

Your Most Obed't Serv't.,

GEO. CLINTON.

To Colo. Sparhawk,

Pyramus, 7th Jan'y., 1777.

Peter Curtenius, who was a Commissary of Stores, writes, Jan. 9th, 1777, to Gen. Clinton, who was at Mr. Sidman's house in the Clove, giving a list of articles left at Hackensack when the British occupied that town. Some of these belonged to the Continentals, some to the State and others to himself. He asks the General in case the Americans should recapture the town to look after these goods and if any should be found to send them to Mr. Slot's. He adds that he has written to Mr. Jacob Zabriskie to take them in charge.

Mr. Slot referred to in above letter was Capt. Sloat of Sloatsburgh and belonged to the Cornwall Co. of Orange County Militia.

Mr. Zabriskie was a noted patriot and was captured and imprisoned in New York, but nothing could break his fiery zeal for the cause. He lived at (now) Areola, formerly Red Mills, Paramus.

January 7th, 1777, Gen. Clinton wrote to Major Haring, of Tappan, as follows:

Ramapough, Jan'y 7th, 1777.

D'r. Sir:—As the Enemy have left Hackinsack (as I am informed), might not a light Party under an active Officer taking their Route by Fort Lee surprise & take the Small Guards at Bull's Weihawk (Weehawken) & Hobock (Hoboken) Ferry, destroy the Boats, Hay, Wood & Stores at those places & bring off the Horses? I think that Capt. Johnson, who knows the Woods well, taking advantage of the night, might effect it & I wish if you & the Field Officers in your Quarter think it practicable it might be attempted, in which case, however, towards the Morning insuing the night the Attempt is to be made a Strong Covering party should Advance down into the English Neighborhood. I must see you here to-morrow with the Colonels in your quarter and am with Esteem,

Your Most Obed't Servant,

G. C.

Major John Haring.

Col. Pawling to Gen. Clinton:

Ramapough, 17th March, 1777.

Dear S'r:—Inclosed I send you the return of my Regim't. I have sent Major Logan Down (since the Receipt of your last) in order to Collect all the crafts in the Hackensack River, which I make no doubt is done. Lieut. Broadbent is come down last week with Seven of Capt. DeWitt's Company of Raingers, whether more will come I Don't know. I intend the Lieut. and his men To Morrow to Morristown to guard a Cupple of men I have Confined. The Duty of my Regiment is very hard, but the Cheerfully Goes through the Fetigues, as they say their time is short. I am Sir with Due Respects,

Your Most Huble Serv't.,

To General George Clinton.

LEVI PAWLING.

About March 24th, 1777, a small British fleet made its way up the Hudson and caused general alarm on both sides of the river, and General Clinton made a general call for Militia for the defence of the forts on the Hudson and the works at Ramapough, and ordered a detachment to Passaic Falls to intercept the Tories from Sussex county, who were at the time extremely active in carrying supplies to the enemy. In consequence of these movements, Col. Hathorn with the Warwick Regiment was sent to the post at Sidman's Bridge.

On April 23rd, Gen. Washington informed Clinton from Morristown that it was reported that Gen. Skinner with a force of about 1,000 Tories and some British Regulars intended to proceed from Bergen through Sussex county and the back part of Jerseys. Washington credited the report, because, as he wrote, "It will give them access to a part of the country most notoriously disaffected that I desire you will post a body of Militia of the State of New York on this side of the North River, in such a place as you shall think most safe from being surprised, and at the same time proper to intercept Skinner's corps should they attempt the above mentioned route" He adds that Gen. Heard with 200 Jersey Militia had taken post at Pompton, along with Col. Dey's Bergen County Militia. In consequence of this information Col. Hathorn was ordered to co-operate with Gen. Heard.

A letter from Michael Connoly to Gen. Clinton on an interesting subject:

Ramapough, March 15th, 1777.

Sir:—The Gentleman that Owns the Liquors at Hackinsack and turned in at this Store has been waiting for my Return those Several Days; from the account he gives of Brand and Mark it seems to be his Liquors. And I make no doubt but his will give you full satisfaction that he is a friend. From those circumstances I suppose he will recover his Liquors, but as we are entirely out and has been those 15 or 16 days and one barrel already Consumed I would be glad you would allow me to purchase them as he offers to take a reasonable price, &c., &c., &c.

To Gen'l. George Clinton.

MICHAEL CONNOLY,

Col. Cooper to Gen. Clinton:

Ramapough, April 9th, 1777.

D'r. Sir:—Sunday last five Deserter's out of Colo. Buskirk's Regiment (Tory) came over to us, two of which I took their Examination and now send you. The Militia are coming daily & could with better conveniences than what there is which I think might with but little Cost & Trouble be provided by Completing the Barracks near the Store, which should be glad with your consent & approbation to fall about, as for Boards, I think I have a sufficiency, Nails I most think we have in store, and if you approve of the matter you'll be pleased to acquaint me of it and give me further Directions.

I am S'r Your Hub'l Serv't.,

To Gen'l. George Clinton.

GILB'T COOPER, Lt. Colo'l.

At New Windsor.

Extract of a letter from Gen. Clinton to Washington:

Fort Montgomery, 19th Jan., 1777.

Dear Sir:—The weak state of the Post near Sydman's Bridge, where by Brother (Gen. James Clinton) commands, he not having Men Sufficient to Mount the necessary Guards, or on the most urgent occasions to send out a Party, has induced me to take the Liberty of ordering there from this Post the other two Companies, raising under my Direction for one of the 16 additional Regiments, and as they will consist now of about

100 Rank & File fit for Duty I have ordered Major Pawling there to take Command of them.

This step, I hope, will meet your Excellency's Approbation, especially as if they should be wanted at Head Quarters they will be more easily & expeditiously Got from Sydman's than from this Place, &c.

To Gen. Washington.

GEO. CLINTON.

P. S.—I have wrote to Genl' Putnam for his approbation respecting the Removal of the above two Companies, which I expect before they are ready to March.

Letter of Washington to Gen. Putnam:

11 Miles in the Clove, July 21st, 1777.

D'r Sir:—The intelligence which occasioned us to advance from the entrance to the Clove yesterday morning I find to be premature and mean to remain here untill I have your answer. What I wish to be particularly and certainly Informed of is whether you have Received any further accounts from Genl. Sillimon or other persons contiguous to the Water, Respecting the Ships that were Seen going up the Sound. Whether they have come to anchor and where—Whether they have Troops on Board or have Landed any and what number of Ships have appeared in the Whole—You will, I say, give me the most particular Information you have obtained in the several Instances by Express. I shall anxiously await for your Answer, and have no doubt of Receiving it tonight—our situation here is Distressing and the Conduct of Genl. Howe Extremely embarrassing.

Yours &c.

GO. WASHINGTON.

P. S.—I shall Expect the earliest and Quickest Intelligence of every important occurrence.

G. W.

Genl. Putnam.

Washington to Clinton:

Pumpton Plains,
28th July, 1777.

Dear Sir:—Yours of yesterday reached me at this place. Considering the situation in which you say the hard bread is, instead of bring-

ing it forward, I have directed Genl. Sullivan's and Lord Stirling's Divisions to draw three day's provisions each before they King's Ferry. If any remains after supplying them it may be sent back to the forts.

Whether the enemy's real designs are Southward or eastward, in order to oppose them effectually and to give proper support to Gen. Schuyler, I shall be obliged to draw off a considerable part of the force from Peekskill and there can be no substitute but Militia under our present Circumstances. I think it would be expedient immediately to call in from one thousand to fifteen hundred from the States of New York and Connecticut, the proportions I leave to Genl. Putnam and Yourself.

I do not apprehend much danger from the Garrison that is left in New York, but were the Posts up the River left in too defenceless Condition it might be a temptation for them to Seize them.

I have desired Genl. Putnam to make a demand of as many of the Connecticut Militia as you and he shall allot them, &c., &c., &c.

I am dear Sir,

Your Most Obed. Servt.,

Gen. Clinton.

GO. WASHINGTON.

Extract of letter written from Gen. Clinton to Gen. Gates. This was written after learning of the Battle of the Brandywine:

Kingston, Sept'r 15th, 1777.

Dear Sir:—About 12 O'Clock of this day I received the inclosed letter from Genl. Putnam by express.

In consequence of the intelligence therein contained I have ordered Eleven Regiments of the Militia of this State to march immediately, 6 of them to join Genl. Putnam's army at Peekskill, 2 to strengthen the Garrison of Fort Montgomery and three to join Gen'l McDougal at Ramapough.

G. C.

To Gen. H. Gates.

Extract from Letter of Major Moffat to Gen. James Clinton:

Ramapo Clove, 5th October, 1777.

S'r—As the enemy is in motion & their destination as yet unknown to me, I thout prudent having an opportunity P' Col. Livingston to

advise you of my strength at this post, which with the reinforcement I have received from Col. Hathorn's Regiment amounts to scarce Two Hundred men, officers included. Major Wisner, who is with the last detachment, says they are not all in that he expects, but if they were I am afraid be insufficient in case of an attack, as many of their arms are poor and we are scarce of flints, having none but what in use and many of them bad. Should have sent to you for some today, but was disappointed in getting a horse timeously; if you have any Horse to spare should be glad you would send me some by one of them.

The last account I had of the enemy was that they were in Haverstraw Bay, standing up the river, their van near Stony Point, and that their fleet consisted of nine Topsail vessels, a number of sloop, Gallies, &c., with about 50 flat Bottomed Boats, and appeared to have a number of Troops on Board.

I have wrote to Major Gutches (Goetchius) desiring he would afford me what assistance he can in case of Necessity. Should have wrote for the remainder of Col. Hathorn's Regiment, but expect you have ordered them here, as Col. Malcomb is yet at home should be glad he was ordered here to take the Command if you think proper.

The day before yesterday I received Intelligence that a number of Tory Rascals often passed to New York through the Maesonakos woods below Suffern's, and often took honest peoples Horses to the enemy. Amongst the Sufferers, Mr. Suffern lost 2 on Thursday night last of which he gave me the above information and offered to pilot any party that I would send out to waylay them. I immediately ordered Capt. Wood with about twenty men to go to Mr. Suffern's about dark and follow his directions, who accordingly went and had the good fortune about 2 in the Morning to fall in with a party of those villains to the number of 8 or 10 and fired on them (after challenging properly and they refusing to stand) killed one dead on the spot, wounded another so badly he died next Morning about 9 O'Clock, &c., &c.

THOMAS MOFFAT, Major.

Brigadier-Genl. James Clinton,
Fort Montgomery.

During the Winter and Spring of 1779 the British Agents and Tories had been very active in the whole of the Northern portion of the

town of Ramapo. Cattle, horses and other live stock stolen and driven off, property of all descriptions plundered and abuse of all conceivable forms committed upon the patriot people.

These conditions called forth the following pathetic appeal to Governor Clinton for relief:

To Governor Clinton—May it please your Excelencie, we the civel Majestrates, Freeholders & Inhabitants of the South Side of the Mountains in the County of Orange, beg leave in a most Humble manner to lay some of its Innumerable Grievances before your Excelencie Hoping in your Benign Wisdom and Benevolence towards your people you will lend your attention.

With such confidence we make bold to lay our Grievances before you. We understand by a letter from your excellency in answer to Coll. Hays that your Excellency has given Gen. McDougal authority to call the Militia out from here and Detach them in what manner seemeth best to him. Sir, many circumstances has occurred since the date of that letter. Several of our good friends have been Robbd, many horses have been stolen from our best Friends, a Gentleman robb'd near Widow Sidman's of upward of Eleven Thousand Pounds, New York currency (Esquire Satterly of upward of 2,000£ collected as tax). Information is now actually given that no Less than nine Different scouts of these most atrocious wretches is now this instant in and about the Mountains Bordering upon us, and their ready getting to the Enemy in safety or within their Lines stands in need of more force than we are able to maintain to defeat them. These and many other such circumstances Emboldens us to state our Grievances to you. And Whereas, we Humbly conceive that your Excellency as our General and Chief Magistrate is the only recourse from which we may hope for relief; And Whereas, it is well known to Some of the Subscribers, since the above mentioned Robberies a Number of the good people here has but one night in three in their beds, and that without Safety or Comfort, on account of these dangers, and for some prospect of safety, Padrols are kept on the Roads and paths every night.

From these States facts we hope your Excellency will conceive that the men called from here by Order of Gen. McDougal is a real Grievance and actually renders us more Defenceless. The many calls of the Inhabitants with their Teams and other things, which the Army wants,



WILLIAM W. SNOW.

in passing and Repassing thro' this part of the State takes at least one-Sixth part of its Inhabitants Constantly Employ'd in that way; your Excelency will Judge what Strength we can have to defend our Extensive Frontier, besides the above mentioned internal Enemies and many others that Secretly harbors them. All which we humbly submit to your Consideration. And beg leave to Subscribe ourselves, your Excelency's most Obedient Servants,

Paul v. d'Voort, Barent v. d'Voort, David Pye, John Coleman, Jacob Cole, John D. Coe, John Coe, Jonah Hallsted, Theunis Cuyper, John Beekman, John Suffern.

April 28, 1779.

In consequence of this Memorial and of information furnished by Governor Livingston, of New Jersey, which gave clew to the perpetrators of these robberies and crimes, Governor Clinton wrote a letter to General McDougal, under date of April 29th, 1779, of which the following is a part:

Extract of letter of Governor Clinton to General McDougal:

I have just received from our Friend, Gov'r Livingston, the examination of which I enclose you a copy of one Cole & other Robbers who have been lately convicted & executed in his State. These discover, not only the names of the Persons in the different gangs of Robbers who infest this State, but those who harbour & abet them. It is of the utmost Importance that they be immediately apprehended & secured. I have therefore taken the liberty of sending you the enclosed warrant ag't those Persons named in the Examination who reside in the neighborhood of Kakiat, in Orange County. As I have Reason to fear that the Execution of it (if committed to the civil magistrate or the Militia) may be attended with Delay and rendered unsuccessful, I must request of you to appoint one of your Officers (whom you shall deem best calculated for the Business) with a proper Detachment to carry the same into immediate execution. You will please get Major Strang to insert his name in the Blank left in the warrants for that Purpose, as there is not a suff't number of Commiss'rs here at pres't to form a quorum.

I have informed Colo. Isaac Nicoll of Orange County, who is charged with the execution of this business in the Clove & in the neighborhood of Sterling Iron Works, that it be begun on the South side of the Mountains on the 5th of next month. I mention this, as it is necessary that

both Parties should strike about the same time, to prevent the Persons being alarmed & making their Escape. Indeed it is necessary that this whole business should be conducted with Secrecy.

It has been seen by Washington's letter to General Putnam, dated July 21st, 1777, that he with his army was in the lower part of the Clove on the day preceding, to which point he had moved his army by slow marches from Morristown, New Jersey, anxiously watching the movements of Sir William Howe, and fearing an attempt on his part to force the passage of the Highlands to co-operate with Burgoyne, who was moving southward from Canada to capture Albany. Finally becoming persuaded that Howe's aim was an attempt to capture Philadelphia, Washington called in his detachments, returned down the valley, and going by way of New Brunswick, hurried on to the defence of that city.

Again in the Summer of 1779, Washington made a hurried march to the Clove, going up as far as Smith's Clove. This was in consequence of the movements of the British army and of vessels up the Hudson threatening again the forts in the Highlands. From Smith's Clove there were passes through the mountains to the forts on the Hudson. Detachments of the American army were stationed throughout the Ramapo valley as far down as the entrenchments at Sidman's bridge for the protection of their communications.

In consequence of this action of Washington, Sir Henry Clinton abandoned his project, whatever it may have been, and returned with his forces to New York.

While stationed at Smith's Clove Washington planned and Wayne executed the brilliant capture of Stony Point; General Wayne crossing the mountains from Smith's Clove to Haverstraw the day previous.

In September, 1777, Lieut. Col. Burr, in command of Col. Mecom's regiment, was stationed at the works in the Ramapo Pass; Burr having his headquarters at the house of John Suffern. Here he received intelligence that the British were in considerable force at Hackensack, twenty miles below, and advancing into the country; leaving a guard to protect the post, he marched with the rest of his command to Paramus, about sixteen miles, arriving at about sunset. Leaving the greater part of his force, he took a small detachment with him to reconnoitre the position of the enemy. Having satisfied himself of their position, he concealed his men and waited till early morning to make the attack,

which he did, not allowing a gun to be fired until full upon the enemy. The result was that the British were fully surprised; many were killed or wounded and the balance dispersed or taken prisoners. Although this was a small affair, still it gave a severe check to the Tories of Bergen county, of which there were many, led by the notorious Colonel Van-Buskerk.

It is possible, and also probable that while on this expedition, Colonel Burr first met Madam Provost, who afterward became his wife. She was then living at New Prospect, now Hohokus, New Jersey, in a comfortable old mansion, beautifully shaded by forest trees, distant eight miles south of Suffern, on the road which Burr had to traverse in going to make the attack at Hackensack. We are told, at least, that while stationed at Suffern, he was assiduous in his attentions to the lady, and his romantic ride from White Plains to New Prospect and back in one night to see his Lady Love has been celebrated in both prose and verse. It is additionally interesting to people of our town that Theodosia Provost was the widow of James Marcus Provost, who was the owner of one of the largest and most valuable land patents within our limits. It was within the old Paramus Church, which stands about two miles southeast along the main road, from this old mansion that Aaron Burr and Theodosia Provost were married. This was on July 2nd, 1782.

The property which Madam Provost occupied passed to the possession of Dr. Elijah Rosencrants, who married Cornelia, daughter of John Suffern; their children inherited it and their grandchildren now occupy it. The old mansion was torn down a half century since and a modern Gothic structure of brown stone erected on its site. Some interesting relics of the interior of the old building were incorporated into the new.

The tradition is that while Washington was in Ramapo Cove in 1777, he climbed Torne Mountain, the highest peak in the lower valley, to watch the movements of the British fleet in New York bay. It was down this valley that Washington sent De la Montagne with dispatches meant to delude Sir Henry Clinton into the belief that New York was the objective point of the allied army in 1781. Montagne knew well that the route he was ordered to follow was infested by Tories and made objection, but was sternly ordered to obey orders. As Washington expected, De la Montagne was captured and the deceptive dispatches

reached Sir Henry Clinton. This incident was told by De la Montagne to Mr. Jeremiah H. Pierson and was generally known in the vicinity.

In the late summer of 1780, the American army passed up the valley from Pompton and encamped at Ramapo for several days, Washington making his headquarters at the house of Andrew Hopper, about two miles below the New Jersey line, the advance of the army encamping at Suffern. Here they remained for several days. It was while here that the expedition of Light Horse Harry Lee against the enemy at Paulus Hook was planned and executed.

From Ramapo the army moved, part going to Westchester county by way of King's Ferry, the left wing, under General Green, going to Tappan. Washington proceeded to Hartford for a consultation with Count Rochambeau. While on this visit the treason of Arnold culminated and Andre was captured.

The last time any portion of the Continental Army passed through this section of the county was when the combined French and American armies went to the capture of Cornwallis at Yorktown. The two armies crossed from Westchester by King's Ferry, a portion of the Americans having crossed at Dobb's Ferry at an earlier date; while effecting this crossing the armies encamped at Haverstraw for a few days and when they took up their march, one division went by way of Clarkstown, Tappan, the Hackensack valley to Newark, and Perth Amboy, the other divisions going over the old Military Road through Kakiat to Suffern, and so on through the Ramapo valley to Pompton, and from there by different roads to Trenton.

At the close of the first day's march after they left Haverstraw, a portion of the troops encamped at Suffern on the farm formerly owned by Major James Suffern, and which now belongs to Mr. Dininny. As late as 1844 the fire places of this encampment, which were built of field stone, were in a good state of preservation. They were taken away to clear up the land about that time.

The northeastern part of the town was often raided by Claudius Smith and his followers, who stole cattle and horses, and carried them to the enemy and terrorized the inhabitants. The Presbyterian Church at Hempstead is said to have been used as a horse stable by the American forces, and nearby, at the house of John Coe, Lafayette is reported to have written at least one letter.

Among the homes visited by British partisans was that of one Lee, near the State line, in Mesonicus. This home they devastated, killed young Lee and violated the person of his sister Elisabeth. These cruelties upset the poor girl's reason and she shortly after died from exposure in a severe snowstorm.

In 1781 the British held several positions in New Jersey near the State line and gave much annoyance to the people of Ramapo. On one occasion Captain Babbit, in command of a small party of horsemen stationed near Monsey, attacked and routed a party of these, either killing or capturing the whole party without the loss of a man.

ROADS.

In the early days the roads in the Town of Ramapo, like those in other of the older settled sections of the country, were rather a matter of neighborhood growth than of any system. Rather tracks from one neighbor to another than a system of communication between points of importance more or less distant. Yet they ultimately took somewhat the form of a system.

It has been truly said that "Nature as well as man made the 'Point of the Mountain' at Suffern, the starting point for roads." Like the ribs of a fan with the southern outlet of the Ramapo valley as the pivot, roads take their courses, southwest, south, southeast, east, northeast and north; reaching in these several directions Pompton and Morristown and beyond; Paterson, Hackensack, Newark, Hoboken and New York; Tappan, Piermont and Nyack; New City, Rockland Lake, Hempstead, Haverstraw and Stony Point; while through the "Old Clove" points a stream of travel from the far west to the great city of the country, New York.

An old time resident of this point, writing in January, 1797, to his Member of Congress concerning questions which were agitating the public mind says: "As I live on a spot which commands the pass from the western part of the State, and Vermont, and it being the central road from the Southern to the Eastern States, I have thereby frequent opportunity of seeing and conversing with people of note and information," etc., etc.

In Revolutionary days there were three main routes from the "Point of the Mountain" to the eastern part of the county, which continued

for many years to be considered as such. They may be designated as the southern, the central and the Northern routes. All three had the same starting point, which may now be designated as the Crossing of Washington and Lafayette avenues, in the village of Suffern.

The Southern route taking a direction almost due east for about one and one-half miles, where it turns to a direction southeasterly, to the Heights of Masicus at the Lutheran Church and the old tavern stand of Cornelius Wanamaker; from there it went on with many crooks and turns to the John Yeary tavern, south of Monsey station; and easterly and southerly, south of Spring Valley, through the Scotland neighborhood to Middletown (south of Nanuet), so through Greenbush to Tappan and Piermont.

The second or Middle road started at the same point and ran northerly to the foot of the Mountains which bear off northeasterly towards Haverstraw, then easterly to the Lodwick Carlough house, built in 1765, so on easterly by the homes of the Fredericks and directly over the hill immediately in front of Mr. Thomas F. Ryan's residence and still on, to the north of Tallman's station, and past the Spook Rock, over the hills to the residence of Mr. John Lewis Blauvelt, north of Monsey; here to meet the road coming south from the "Brick Church" section; from there it ran southward to the upper part of Monsey at the Cemetery of the True Reformed Church. Turning here to the east for a short distance it went southward and eastward into Spring Valley, to the Dutch factory hill.

The third of these roads started from the same point and was known as the "King's Road." It followed the same line as the second until it reached the corner at Eugene Wanamaker's blacksmith shop. Here it turned northerly to the foot of the mountain, following the course of the mountain to "Forshay's" Corner; here it bore more toward the east, and crossing the Mahwah by a bridge, it passed on over the hill, through Mechanicsville (now Viola) to and past the "Brick Church" to the English or Hempstead Presbyterian Church. At this point it turned north to Gurnee's Corner, near Mt. Ivy Station, from which point it continued in a northeasterly course to Hudson river at Haverstraw. At Benson's, near the Print Works, it branched to the northward to Stony Point and the "King's Ferry."

At Forshay's Corner there was a practicable road following the Mahwah northward to Ladentown, which has become the main route between Suffern and Haverstraw.

At the English Church the road to New City continues eastward and becomes the connecting route between the Kakiat section of Ramapo and the different sections of Clarkstown.

On the northwest corner of these roads stood the home of John Cooe. Here he kept a tavern during the Revolution and entertained many noted people of the time. Here also is the starting point of another of the important lines of road in the town. It runs in a southerly direction to and through Spring Valley to the New Jersey Line near which it separates, one section going easterly and southerly into the Pascack Valley, and the other going westerly and southerly to Chestnut Ridge and Saddle River Valley, N. J.

By means of the four lines of road we have tried to describe, communication was possible, with the aid of a few minor lines, between the southwestern part of the county and the section bordering on the Hudson, from Jones's Point on the north, to Tappan on the south. Still, the time soon came when a demand arose for better and more direct roads between the Ramapo valley and tide-water. Manufacturing plants sought the valley because of the water power and fuel it contained, and as soon as they became established, and before, the call came for shorter and better roads, the farmers joining in the demand. Hence, it is not surprising that active measures should follow.

Through the Ramapo Valley there had, from an early date, been a road; how early cannot be learned, leading through the only real pass in the mountains, between the Hudson and Delaware; it gave communication from the south and New Jersey, to the interior of the State of New York. It was called the Albany road, and upon it, especially in winter, when the Hudson was closed by ice, regular lines of stages were wont to run from New York to Albany. The section through the valley then almost a wilderness, a difficult one, as it was also an important one to keep in repair. That this was recognized was evidenced by the fact that the State Legislature in 1794 passed two separate Acts authorizing the Supervisors of Orange county to spend one hundred and thirty-six pounds in rebuilding the bridge over the Ramapo creek in the town of New Hempstead near the house of Lewis Shuart, and to appoint a "freeholder" to superintend the work.

The earliest and most important move leading to improved roads was the chartering of the Orange Turnpike Company, to which power was given to straighten and improve the road from the State line to Monroe, in Orange county, a distance of 20 miles, and to provide for its future maintenance by the collection of tolls. This was done April 4th, 1800. The stock of the company was largely taken by people of Orange county to whom the road was of special value. Among the stockholders reported in 1800 the first on the list was Aaron Burr; others were Peter Townsend, Jeremiah H. Pierson & Co., Seth Marvin, John Suffern, etc.

The old King's road, leaving the State of New Jersey, ran directly north to the residence of Mr. John Suffern, passing in front of the Episcopal Church, there turning sharply to the west, followed Lafayette Avenue to a point between the Methodist and Roman Catholic Churches, where it bore to the northward, and its course was directly to the present Orange avenue in front of R. G. Riggs' hotel, but the Turnpike, on leaving the State line, followed the bed of Orange avenue parallel to the Erie road until it reached the Hillburn Village line, and from that point it follows practically the line upon which it was laid originally. The Toll gates on this road were at Sloatsburg and at the saw works near the upper Tuxedo Park entrance; the last one was abandoned many years since, but the one at Sloatsburg remained until the road was turned over to the town.

In 1869 the company was authorized to abandon the western half of its road, which was done. Later on, considerable dissatisfaction existed on the part of those using the Turnpike and those living along its line, and circumstances having changed in a manner to make it a burden to its owners, application was made for permission to turn it over to the towns which it traversed. This permission was granted and thus passed out of existence the first and the last Turnpike road in the town of Ramapo.

A law was afterwards passed allowing the Supervisors of any county desiring to do so, to adopt what is known as the "County Road System." The Supervisors of Rockland county by resolution adopted that system and determined that the Orange Turnpike within the limits of the town, excepting the portion within the Corporation limits of the village of Hillburn, should be a portion of the county roads.



JAMES A. DAVIDSON.

Starting from Suffern and running east to the Hudson is the Nyack Turnpike. This road was run almost regardless of hills, valleys or swamps. The one object in view seemed to have been the shortest possible line to the Hudson river and by actual distance it is between four and five miles shorter than the route which had to be previously taken.

Before the laying of this road or chartering of the company much discussion was had.

The question to be decided was one between Haverstraw and Nyack. Not whether a road should be built, but should it be between Suffern and Nyack or between Suffern and Haverstraw.

Nyack offered deeper water at its dock and less trouble with ice in winter and shorter river travel. A slightly shorter route and a hilly road, while Haverstraw offered, upon the whole, much easier grades. The decision was in favor of Nyack and after repeated petitions the Legislature, on April 17th, 1816, incorporated the Nyack Turnpike Company, with Teunis Smith, Robert Hart, Abram Tallman, Teunis DePew, Peter Smith, Jeremiah H. Pierson, Edward Suffern, John E. Myers and William Young as incorporators. The road "to begin at the cross roads near Nyack Landing in Orangetown, in the County of Rockland, between the houses of Teunis and Peter Smith, running thence westerly along the old road until in front of Peter Smith's dwelling house, and from thence the most direct and most convenient route to the Orange Turnpike road, and to pass in front of the dwelling house of John Suffern, in the town of Hempstead, in said county."

The stock was to consist of 700 shares of \$25.00 each. Jeremiah H. Pierson, John E. Myers and Teunis Smith were the Commissioners to receive subscriptions, and no toll-gate was to be placed within one-half mile of the Orange Turnpike.

An Act was passed in April, 1830, by which J. H. Pierson and Edward Suffern, of the town of Ramapo, Lucas Akers and Isaac Lydecker, of Clarkstown, and John Green, Teunis Smith and Peter Smith, of the Town of Orange, were appointed Trustees to superintend the improvement and repair of this road. As originally run the road made a detour to the south of Monsey and Spring Valley, but in 1871 the Alturas Company opened a road from Monsey to Spring Valley directly across the swamp, which had proved such an obstacle at an earlier day, and has made still easier and shorter the travel between Nyack and Suffern.

Notwithstanding the success of the advocates of the Nyack road, it still remained true that a better and shorter road to Haverstraw was needed, and its advocates in 1814 secured a charter for the "New Antrim and Waynesburgh Turnpike Company. The incorporators' names in the act were Halstead Coe, Edward Suffern, Josiah Conklin, John Knapp, John D. Coe, Elias Gurnee, Andrew Suffern, John Felter and Abram Dater. This road was to begin at the dwelling house of John Suffern, situated in the town of New Hempstead, from thence to run by the most direct course to such a point in the Village of Waynesburgh, later Warren, now Haverstraw, as the Commissioners might select. Nothing was done by this company, but by degrees a road from Suffern to Haverstraw in the most direct and by the easiest route, has been secured. This was accomplished by starting at the present crossing of the Piermont Branch Railroad at Suffern and following the base of the mountain as far as the Lodowich Carlough house, and continuing straight on over the hill, instead of bearing to the right as the old one did, until it met the old or right hand road, and thence to Forshay's Corner. From this point there had been in early days a passable road through the Mahwah Valley to Ladentown; from this point it turned to the eastward and passed over Camp Hill to Gurnee's Corner, at the head of the "Hook Mountain." But the road over Camp Hill was heavy and long, three-quarters of a mile from the summit either way. On the one side of it were thousands of cords of wood on the Ramapo Mountains, and on the other were the brick-yards at Haverstraw. Each of these wanted easy access to the other and that long and steep hill was in the way and then there was but one alternative; that was, around the southern base of the hill, but this would carry us across a large swamp, about one-third of a mile across. This was a formidable obstacle, indeed, but about 1875 the authorities of the Town of Ramapo took the matter in hand and built the road about one and one-half miles at a cost of between \$2,000 and \$3,000. This change has had the effect of shortening the time between the two terminals greatly, and secured a stretch of about twelve miles of road with very easy grades. Now that this line is included within the County system and the few hills cut down and valleys filled, it will shortly become one of the most attractive drives in the county.

There are two other wagon roads in the town, of considerable interest, one of them being the road from Sloatsburg and Dater's Forge, to Johnstown. By this route Haverstraw and Stony Point may be reached.

Another principal road is the one leaving the New Jersey line, running northerly through Cherry Lane, Tallmans, Mechanicsville or Viola, and onward to the northern end of the town.

There are many other cross and by-roads, but deeming these the most prominent, we shall rest at this.

ERIE RAILROAD.

The Erie Railroad obtained its charter in 1832. Work was commenced in 1836 and it was opened for traffic between Piermont and Goshen, Orange county, in 1841. According to the original charter the road could not pass into New Jersey. Therefore its nearest access to New York City was at Piermont. In coming west from Piermont, it first enters Ramapo at Spring Valley. The stations on its line coming from east to west are Spring Valley, Monsey, Tallmans, Suffern, Hillburn, Ramapo, Sterlington and Sloatsburg. It may be stated here that the building of this road created a great deal of interest among the people of the town of Ramapo. This was not surprising when we take into account that it traverses practically the whole length from east to west. Quite a number of its residents along the line granted a free right of way across their properties and agreed to build and keep the fences while many subscribed to its stock, in some cases paying for it in labor and material used in the building of the line. This liberality was in time regretted by many—they discovered that there was more than one side to the question where individuals, not communities, were concerned.

From the first starting to build, the railroad was the common topic of conversation among old and young, and people would come from long distances to satisfy their curiosity.

During the winter of 1839 and '40 the track which had begun to be laid at the river, had reached what is known as the Hemion Bridge which is a road crossing about one and one-half miles east of Suffern station. At about one-eighth of a mile south of this bridge stood the district schoolhouse. One afternoon, while the pupils were engaged in their work, a strange sound was heard, and all, including teacher, paused; it was but for a moment, for all, including teacher, with one accord rushed for the door, grabbing their hats as they ran, not thinking of wraps, and leaving the door standing wide open fled to where the strange sound was heard. It was the whistle of the first locomotive they had seen. As

showing the difference between then and now, at least in railroad matters, another incident may be of interest. It occurred during the winter following the opening of the road as far as Suffern.

Major James Suffern resided about one mile to the east of Suffern station, his house standing about 300 feet from the railroad. Just to the rear of the house was a road crossing by which he could reach the farm on the other side of the railroad; on either side of this crossing was a trench or cattle-guard as it is called in railway parlance. During the winter one night a pretty deep snow being on the ground, a locomotive without a train was let down into one of these cattle-guards, and of course there was trouble. How was the locomotive to be raised and placed upon the track? No one knew. Finally the fireman was sent to the Major to see if he could and would hire him a horse with saddle and bridle to drive to Piermont for help to get the engine out of the cattle-guard. It so happened that the Major knew the fireman and also the principal officers of the road, and consented to let him have the horse. It may here be stated that the first engines placed upon the lines were but little if any larger than those employed on the elevated lines in New York city today. The road which approaches Suffern from the south, now a four track line, is the Paterson and Ramapo road, opened in 1848, from Paterson to the State line, and is connected with the old Erie road by the Union Railroad, 79-100 of a mile long. This connected Suffern with New York City in the following manner:

Suffern by Union Railroad to State line, State line to Paterson by Paterson & Ramapo Railroad; Paterson to Jersey City by Paterson & Jersey City Railroad. These three roads formed a continuous line and all were leased to the Erie Company in 1852, and now form the main line of that road between Suffern and Jersey City.

During this interval between 1848 and 1852 there was rivalry between the two lines and Suffern acquired quite a prominence.

At the opening of the Paterson and Ramapo Railroad, too, there was quite a celebration at Suffern. Many prominent men from abroad were there, among them being General Winfield Scott. A collation was served and general congratulations were exchanged.

The New Jersey and New York Railroad enters this town at Spring Valley and proceeds from thence, north to the Haverstraw line at the head of Hook Mountain; from there it strikes down the Minnies Falls Valley and terminates at Main street in that village.

The inception of this road was the desire of the people of Hackensack, New Jersey, to have railway connection with New York City; this desire led to the building of the line from the Erie at a point on the Hackensack meadow about a mile east of Rutherford, New Jersey, to the lower end of Hackensack at Essex street. Later it was extended to Hillsdale, New Jersey. Having rested there a short time, the new company was formed, called the Hackensack and New York Extension Company; the road was carried forward to Nanuet, thence it used the tracks of Piermont Branch to Spring Valley, from which place it ran to Stony Point, and later by a branch road into Haverstraw, as stated.

The road was opened May 3rd, 1875; in 1877 a receiver was appointed. The original lines were sold separately, the Hackensack Railroad, August 14th, 1878, and the Hackensack and New York Extension Railroad, November, 1879.

The New Jersey & New York Railroad was organized in 1880, and for a number of years it has been under the control of the Erie. The stations along its line within the town of Ramapo are Spring Valley, Union Station, New Hempstead, Alexis Station, Pomona and Mount Ivy.

Sterling Mountain Railway.—This railroad runs from Sterlington on the Erie Railroad, to Lakeville and Sterling Lake, about a mile. It was built to transport ore and pig iron from the mines and furnaces of the company, and coal and other material to them. The company was organized May 18th, 1864, and was opened November 1st, 1865. This company succeeded to the control of the old Townsend property and mines which were famous in the early days of iron making. Although the furnaces have been abandoned, the ores from these mines are still in good demand for special uses, at this date.

Note—The Erie has changed its official name so often it would be tiring to note its many names and it will here be treated by its present and most familiar one—the “Erie Railroad.”

RAMAPO VALLEY, RAMAPO RIVER AND OTHER STREAMS.

The Ramapo Valley extends from the village of Monroe, in Orange county, N. Y., to below Pompton, in Passaic county, New Jersey. The river of that name takes its rise from Little Round Pond, a pretty little natural lake which, with a small wooded island at about the middle of it, is distant about one and a quarter miles in a westerly direction from the

railroad station in that village. Thence it makes its course through field and meadow, past Turner, to the valley proper. The valley from thence southward is narrow and somewhat tortuous, only occasionally reaching a width of one mile from one foot-hill to the other. The hills on both sides attain considerable height and are rocky and wooded; in some places they are precipitous and exceedingly rough. This is its character for about sixteen miles between Turners and Suffern, at which point the mountain of the east side end and the country opens out into the farming section of Rockland county and northern New Jersey. On the right, however, they continue in their rugged character about thirteen miles further, when they abruptly end at the upper side of the plains at Pompton, N. J.

From its very start in active life the Ramapo stream commences to be serviceable; for in the village of Monroe, only one and a quarter miles from its source, it has been for years turning a mill for grinding grain, and at Turners it has been of like service. From here for about four miles it takes its sluggish way to Arden, where it receives quite an accession to its waters from lakes on the east mountain; thence in a rather lazy way it proceeds to Southfield, where it again gains size and strength from beautiful Mombasha Lake on the west side. Still on it goes down its course about two miles further to the saw works, where the waters from famous Tuxedo Lake join from the westward again. From this point the speed increases for about two miles further, when it leaps and plunges through a narrow gorge and over two falls and lands in a beautiful basin at the foot of the last one. We have now reached "Augusta Forge," of ancient fame, but now known as Tuxedo. From thence we follow the course still southward and two miles brings us to the old Dater place, where used to be forged sawmills and grist mills; and now we are in the town of Ramapo. This is near the entrance of Tuxedo Park. A little lower down the largest contributor, so far met with, to her volume, Stoney Brook, from the east, which is large enough to have driven a forge, saw-mill and grist-mill. A little further on it reaches Sloatsburg, where the waters from Negro Pond (Pothat) again add size. This place has been an important manufacturing centre, as will be seen further on; so we follow down stream about one and one-half miles and we come to another place where the power of her waters made possible the founding of one of the most important industries which have existed

within the bounds of the Town of Ramapo or of the county. Here, too, is a considerable addition to her water by the Tohruc brook, from the eastern mountain. About two miles further south, at Hillburn, it again becomes useful in running a saw-mill and rolling mill; her waters pass out of the Town of Ramapo into the State of New Jersey and so on after receiving the waters of the Mahwah at a point about one-half mile below the State line, to join with the Wymaque and the Pequaniek, a short distance beyond Pompton, to form the Passaic, and thence over the falls at Paterson, adding power and beauty to that city and Passaic, on out to sea.

The Mahwah, sometimes called Haverstraw, is the next stream in size within the town, and rises a short distance northeast from the little hamlet of Ladentown. Its general course is southwestward until it reaches the northerly bounds of Suffern village, when its course is more nearly directly south until it approaches the New Jersey line, when it turns to the west and joins the Ramapo.

The only other stream of consequence in the town is the Pascaek, although its course lies within its bounds but a short distance; still there are two or three mill sites on it before it passes into Clarkstown. It rises to the north of Monsey and coursing around the hill it passes through Spring Valley with a heavy fall down into the valley and so on south into New Jersey. While there are no other considerable streams, the town may be considered pretty well watered, there being many small brooks and rivulets, some of which afford sites for grist-mills and saw-mills.

The streams which originate in or pass through the town find their way to the ocean at Sandy Hook by the Hudson, the Hackensack and the Passaic rivers. Those originating in the northeasterly part of the town by way of the first, those taking their rise north of Monsey and west of Spring Valley flow into the Hackensack by way of the Pascaek, and those of the Saddle river, the Mahwah and Ramapo empty into the Passaic.

EDUCATION.

Education, Manners and Customs.

It will readily be understood that considering the situation of the early settlers, the problems before them, the clearing up of a wilderness

and the providing of clothing and sustenance for families, left but little opportunity for attention being given to education. The labor of old and young, male and female, was required to build and make even comfortable the home, to clear the land and put in crops that the table might be moderately supplied. This was the problem which confronted all. Even had teachers been plentiful and competent, which they were not, there was little time or opportunity to take advantage of their services. A teacher would offer his services and would go about the neighborhood and secure subscriptions for the payment of his salary. This obtained, some building was most probably donated for a time and fitted up with slab benches and the most primitive style of desks, if indeed there were any. Fuel was furnished, usually green wood, by the patrons of the school, and the larger boys attending, along with the teacher, made it ready for use in the open fire-places or old box stove.

The following agreement is a sample which shows the method then prevailing:

Article of Agreement made and Concluded Upon Between John A. Woodward on the one part and the Under Written Subscribers on the other is as follows, viz.: that the Said Woodward Doth engage to teach a regular english School the full term of three Months and to instruct his Scholars those Several branches of literature, viz., Spelling, Reading, Writing, Cyphiring & English Grammar for twelve Shillings for Each Scholar. Subscribed as Witness My hand this 25th day of September, Anno Domini, 1804.

J. A WOODWARD.

We, the under Written Subscribers, Do Engage to provide A Sufficient School House with other Necessaries for a School and to pay the Said Woodward twelve Shillings for each Scholar. Subscribed by us at the expiration of the Quarter.

N. B.—The School is to commence on next Monday..

Adolphus Wanmaker,	1
Caty Fox	2
John Straut,	2
John Winter	1
Jacob Hemion,	1
Chistian Wanmaker,	1



GLIDE REQUA.

To the honor of the Reformed Dutch Church it may be said that when a church of that denomination was erected a schoolhouse was built nearby and was to an extent under the supervision of the pastor and Consistory, although as a general thing the teacher assumed the responsibility of raising and collecting his own salary. It was to the Reformed Church at Mahwah and to Mr. Pierson of Ramapo works that the inhabitants of the Ramapo Valley and the section about Suffern and Meson-icus were for a long time indebted for the education which they were fortunate enough to obtain. It will naturally be assumed that it was only the fundamental branches which were taught and owing to the irregular attendance, which arose from many causes, a large number of the youth grew up in lamentable ignorance of even those.

Owing to the improved circumstances of the people, the lessening of the burden of subduing the land for use, and the gradual broadening of their views, there has been a decided, if gradual, improvement in educational matters in the town.

The passage of the Free School law in 1866 and the enlightened policy of the State has however probably been the most important factor in this improved condition and it may now be said that this town is in a fairly satisfactory condition as respects education.

There are in the town at present fifteen school districts, in one of which, Spring Valley, is a High School, and another is a Union Free School. There were employed altogether in 1901 forty-two teachers.

Amount of money raised by local taxation, \$26,013.08.

Amount of Public or State money apportioned in town, \$4,596.96.

Number of pupils enrolled, 1,740.

Number of days' attendance, 248,909.

Value of School properties, \$55,415.

Volumes in School libraries, 4,012.

Volumes added in 1901, 168.

Value of same, \$2,126.

VILLAGES AND HAMLETS.

RAMAPO, FORMERLY RAMAPO WORKS.

In the year 1795 an enterprise which had a wonderful effect on the growth of not only the town of Ramapo, but as well upon the surrounding country in New Jersey and Orange county, was established at this

point. The inducement to its establishment here was the abundant growth of timber on the adjacent mountains and the fine water power furnished by the Ramapo river.

In that year three brothers, Josiah G., Jeremiah H. and Isaac Pierson, purchased from Mr. John Sutfern 119 acres of land, which included the land covered by the dam and the greater part of what is covered by the village as it exists today. At the date of their coming Josiah G. Pierson was engaged in the making of cut nails by machinery of his own invention at Wilmington, Delaware, from iron imported from Russia, rolled and cut at that place.

As soon as this purchase was made work began in earnest. The dam was built across the stream, timber cut and prepared for the erection of buildings, houses erected for employes out of the native wood and on every hand was evidence that enterprising men were at the helm. If we stop to consider the conditions it will be discovered that courage, enterprise and great ability were not lacking in the gentlemen who conceived and carried through to success so great an enterprise.

A few quotations from letters of that time will give evidence that men of determination were the directors. In May, 1795, Mr. J. G. Pierson writes from New York: "Inform the people that they take their cattle off the farm and that they may stay on the place if they will work for me." "Accommodate for board as well as you can." (In October 20 carpenters, and 55 laborers were boarding at John Smith's, Mrs. Van Blareum's and Lewis Shuart's.) "Set the narrow axe men to clear away the brush for the dam." "Set the men to digging for the flumes and raceways." "Hire more men if you can." "Go up to Augusta forge for such iron as you need." "Write to Sterling furnace for castings such as we want about the slitting mill," etc., etc. So the work went on and in 1798 the rolling-mill, slitting mill and nail factory were in operation. The firm name was J. G. Pierson & Brothers. It is an interesting fact that the principal demand for cut nails was for sugar plantations in the West Indies. In 1807 the growth of whale fisheries was such as to make large demands for hoops for oil casks. This induced the enlargement of the rolling mill to meet such demand. At about the same time Mr. Jeremiah H. Pierson invented the machine for slitting nail rods. This machine remained in general use for that purpose until a recent date.

The following summary of the conditions at Ramapo, in the early days, by Mr. E. F. Pierson, as published in Mr. Cobb's History of the Town of Ramapo, will give a full and clear idea of the conditions:

"As the old works at Ramapo were among the pioneer institutions in our county, and identified with agricultural and commercial, as well as the iron industries of both Orange and Rockland counties for many years, their relation to the outlying region beyond the mountains which inclosed them, presents some points for comparison of interest to the descendants of those who dealt with them.

In order to appreciate the situation in this regard from our standpoint we should go back and view the locality as it existed 107 years ago, when Jeremiah H. Pierson first came to Sidman's Clove.

The Ramapo pass is sixteen miles long and through it ran but one road communicating with the cultivated fields of Orange county north and west of the mountains. We need mention but one central road in that direction, leading from Sloatsburg to the iron works at Sterling and Ringwood, built before the Revolution. On the Ramapo river, several miles above, were the Augusta forges. At Suffern the mountains opened upon the long settled portions of Rockland county and of Bergen county, N. J. Here two roads, practicable for heavy traffic, led to tide-water, one to Haverstraw Landing, 14 miles, and the other southward 32 miles to Hoboken Ferry. The navigation of the rivers was exclusively by sailing craft and twelve years was to elapse before Fulton was to put the first steamboat on the Hudson.

The second letter in the correspondence between New York and Ramapo mentions both these routes. Mr. J. G. Pierson, in New York, on the 22nd of May, 1795, advising shipment of the first invoice to Ramapo, says: "Isaac has sent to Haverstraw Landing the things I intended to go to Boskirk's landing, on the Hackensack. I was there yesterday and engaged wagons. Call on Judge Suffern and tell him he must try and get waggon's."

"We, living within an hour's journey of the same spot, to whose multiplied wants railroads make the continent tributary, cannot readily appreciate "the day of small things" when men were groping about for transportation after this slow and laborious fashion. But transportation was not then, as now, when coal and steam are used, the controlling factor in determining the feasibility of a site for iron works. The great

discederata were water power and a forest for fuel. These were abundant in the Clove, but they were not transportable, and it was a very practical truth then that "Mahomet must go to the mountain."

Through the Clove ran the New York and Albany stage, but the letter and passenger carriage of that day were equally behind this age. It would sound strange now to read at the close of a letter from New York an apology in the words, "I fear the post will be gone," "the post is waiting," not infrequent in these communications with Ramapo.

We are very importunate in our demands for the railroad time-table for fear we shall be left, but then the stage time-table was needed to show the traveller how long he must wait. This will appear if we scan the time-table ranging over all the hours of the day and night.

ARRIVALS OF MAIL AT RAMAPO IN 1810.

Date	North	South	Date	North	South
Jan. 1,			Jan. 17,		7.15 a. m.
" 2,	9.05 p. m.		" 18,	9.00 p. m.	
" 3,		2.45 a. m.	" 19,		9.50 "
" 4,			" 20,		
" 5,	midnight	2.45 "	" 21,		2.45 p. m.
" 6,			" 22,	8.00 a. m.	
" 7,		6.50 "	" 23,	9.40 p. m.	
" 8,	11.50 a. m.		" 24,		noon
" 9,	9.10 "		" 25,	11.30 "	
" 10,		10.34 "	" 26,		4.40 a. m.
" 11,	10.41 p. m.		" 27,		
" 12,			" 28,		7.40 "
" 13,		8.30 "	" 29,	4.10 a. m.	
" 14,	10.50 "	8.40 "	" 30,	10.50 p. m.	
" 15,			" 31,		8.20 "
" 16,	10.30 "				

By 1812 we find in operation the rolling and slitting mills, nail factory, blacksmith shop, saw and grist mills, wire mill, store, forge, coal house, store house for straw, barns and stables for many horses, mules and ox teams, a large number of houses for Superintendents and operatives, store houses for grain, meat and provisions. Nor were the

interests of education and religion either forgotten or neglected. The present structure used for school purposes is the third one erected for that use, and in 1796, one year after the first purchase of land, the first schoolmaster made his advent. In 1810 a church was erected.

In order to give a full conception of the activities at Ramapo works at the above date besides the purchase of additional acres of woodland amounting to thousands of acres, and the building of many miles of roads through them, it is necessary that one should have witnessed it, and it must not be forgotten that the transportation was all by team and wagon, either to Haverstraw, 16 miles, Buskirk's Landing on the Hackensack river, 20 miles, or Hoboken, 32 miles. One million pounds of nails per year was one of the items in that problem of transportation, besides others incident to it.

It cannot be doubted that at that time the industries carried on by the Messrs. Pierson were the most important of any in Rockland county, and that the benefits accruing to the surrounding sections of Orange county, the town of Ramapo, and Bergen county, N. J., were among the principal if not the chief factors in their growth and prosperity.

We are now at the date of 1812. In 1814 was begun the erection of a cotton mill five stories high, 140x40 feet in length and width, beside a dye house and machine shop four stories and attic, built of brick, and a stone building for storing cotton. These buildings were completed and in operation in 1816, and cost \$155,848. The operation of this plant nearly doubled the business of the place and the population was increased to about 700.

The joint interest of Jeremiah H. and Isaac Pierson, the surviving brothers was incorporated under the name of the Ramapo Manufacturing Company.

In 1828 the rations of liquor, which had been a general custom, was stopped. This custom was pretty common for many years later among employers of the surrounding section, but happily has finally passed, never to be revived, we may hope.

In 1830 the manufacture of blister steel and wood screws was commenced, and it is to be noted that the machine for heading and slotting screws was invented by Jeremiah H. Pierson and is the same as used for that purpose at the present time. The surveys of the Erie Railroad were made in 1835 through the village. In August, 1841, section

number 21, was reported complete by Mr. Jeremiah H. Pierson and on May 24th, 1841, twenty-four tons of spring steel were transported to section 10 (below Spring Valley), whence they were taken by rail to Piermont, and on the 23rd of September of the same year the first passenger train came as far as Ramapo. Tradition has it that there was a great celebration and feast at the "Smith House" in celebration of the event. Ten years later a change had come which virtually put an end for a time to these industries.

"Space does not allow us to touch upon various subjects for comparison between then and now which are suggested by a review of books, letters and papers preserved going back over ninety years, but mention should be made of the busy lives. There are some still living who remember this activity and there are many names now familiar in the urgent questions in this section that were so in those busy times, which made Ramapo a "hive of industry" for many years long gone by. Of the worthy mechanics who "served their time" and honored their crafts here and elsewhere—of the farmers, the yeomen of Rockland and Orange, in New York and Bergen counties, N. J., who found at Ramapo a market for their produce—of the valuable inventions made or developed here, which pioneered the way for the better things of our time.

It is remarkable, indeed, the number of valuable inventions which have been developed at this place. Besides the machinery for cutting nails, the slitting machines for making nail rods, the power looms for throwing different colors (weaving of different colors had been done solely by hand up to that time), and the machine for heading and slotting wood screws and others by the brothers Josiah and Jeremiah H. Pierson, we may mention the file cutting machine of Mr. John Crum, which after many improvements made to it has caused "file cutting" by hand to be an almost lost art, and the invention of Mr. William W. Snow of several improvements in car wheels and various other devices in his line of business may be mentioned.

From 1851 to 1864 this place was often styled the deserted village, but in the latter year Mr. Charles T. Pierson started the Ramapo Car Works. Then began a transformation. New houses were built, the town beautified and improved and a crowd of workmen employed. In 1866 this was added to by the formation of the Ramapo Wheel and



HIRAM KNAPP.

Foundry Company, with Henry L. Pierson as President, George Church as Treasurer, Charles T. Pierson, Secretary, and William W. Snow, Superintendent. This last concern had a prosperous career for many years, under the management of Mr. Snow. Its principal business was the manufacture of car wheels, both cast iron and steel tired, as well as improved brake shoes and other work in the same line. The principal part of its business having been merged with the Steel Tired Wheel Company, the company afterward went into voluntary liquidation. A new company has been organized, called the Ramapo Car Wheel Co., and is occupying the plant of the former company for the same kind of manufacture, that is, car wheels for steam and electric service, and other castings.

The principal organizers of the company were: P. H. Griffin and T. Guilford Smith, of Buffalo, and Gen. J. Fred Pierson and Garret Burgett, of Ramapo.

The Pierson estate consists of about 8,000 acres at the present day.

SLOATSBURG.

Under this head we shall include what was in early years known as "Dater's Works" or "Pleasant Valley," as well as the portion of Stony Brook Valley which lies within the town of Ramapo. The general name "Sloatsburg" being now applied to the whole of this territory.

It is doubtful whether there is any point within the town which has increased in population within recent years as has this. The reason for this growth is found in the establishment of the celebrated Tuxedo Park. The territory within the park is entirely exclusive, and as many hundreds of thousands of dollars, not to say millions, have been laid out in building of roads, erecting residences and other work, hundreds of mechanics, tradesmen and laborers have been attracted to the nearest point where the property was not under the control of the Park Association, which point is Sloatsburg.

The village now extends from the Orange county line southward to the crossing of the Sterling Mountain railroad, and the old Orange Turnpike, about one and a half miles in length, besides considerable extensions towards the east in the Stony Brook valley, and to the westward on the road to Ringwood and Sterling.

From the history of the Town of Ramapo by the Rev. Mr. Cobb we take the following facts relating to the earliest history of this section:

"In the history of Bergen county, N. J., we find that Abram Dater was living on a farm situated on the Island Road which runs southward past the Mahwah Reformed Church, about three miles below the Jersey line, at Suffern. In the early years of 1800 he is found engaged in the iron manufacturing business at Pleasant Valley, or the upper part of the present Sloatsburg. Here he operated six charcoal forges and owned large tracts of woodlands. In 1806 Mr. Jeremiah H. Pierson, of whom we shall see more later on, writes, 'We have concluded to offer you (Mr. Dater) £45 per ton for iron of Sterling pig drawn to guage, provided you engage to deliver us a given quantity, say 30 or 40 tons, or the chief part of the iron you make.'"

In 1812 Mr. Dater was the second largest taxpayer in Hempstead (Town of Ramapo), and employed about 140 persons. In 1820 the firm was Dater & Ward. Thomas Ward was the son-in-law of Mr. Dater. Upon the death of Mr. Dater, in 1831, the works were sold to the sterling Company, which operated them for a short time. In 1849 they came into the hands of N. Potter Thomas and later A. H. Dow operated them and still later, until 1854, when John Sarsen had them in charge.

These forges were on both sides of the Ramapo, between the present dam and the road bridge which spans the river a short distance below.

Mr. Dater also ran a grist-mill, which stood on the site of the shoddy mill now owned by Hiram Knapp, and a forge known as the "Split Rock Forge," on Stony Brook. Here was also a saw-mill built by Mr. Ward, and later this property came into the hands of Mr. Adna Allen, who converted the buildings into a shop for the manufacture of hoes. Mr. Allen was one of the pioneers in the making of handy tools for farmers, which have replaced those heavy and crude ones which were in early days in their hands and were shaped by the local blacksmith. Here, too, in 1871, Mr. Allen's son, Edward F., established a grist-mill and later a saw-mill and bark-mill, which are still standing and in use. A large portion of the Dater estate was owned for a time by the Sloatsburg Manufacturing Company, which is now the property of Mr. Charles Seidler, but there is still a considerable section of it in possession of Mr. Dater's great grand-children.

As we come down the valley, about a mile from the Orange county line, we are in the limits of the original Sloatsburg. Here we find the

old railroad station, built of brick, on land given by Mr. Jacob Sloat for the purpose, shortly after the opening of the line to Goshen.

The earliest bit of history of the section we have was the purchase by Wynant Van Gelder from the Indian proprietors of the tract of land upon which the village is built. This purchase was made the 7th of March, 1738. The deed for this purchase is printed under titles to lands.

Isaac Van Duser had purchased the adjoining tract to the south and married Van Gelder's daughter and was given the Van Gelder land as well. In course of time Mr. Van Duser had a daughter of marriageable age and it came about that Stephen Sloat, a Hollander, born March 25th, 1727, came into the valley from New York and married this daughter, and also became possessor of this tract by gift from his father-in-law, March 25th, 1763. The children of this marriage were John, Isaac, Mary and Elizabeth. John was the father of Commodore Sloat, who commanded the American naval forces on the Pacific coast during the Mexican war, was a captain in the Cornwall Militia during the Revolution, and was killed. (The writer has understood that Capt. Sloat was shot by an American sentry stationed at the Sloat home, through mistake, but does not vouch for the truthfulness of the statement). Isaac inherited the paternal estate. Mary married James Westervelt, a merchant of New York, and Elizabeth died in youth.

Isaac, the inheritor of the estate, left two sons, Stephen and Jacob, who succeeded to the property jointly. The stone house occupied by William L. F. Sloat was the original Sloat mansion. It was of capacious dimensions and served as a public house on the old post road from New York to Albany. (It was one of a number of such houses in the valley between Monroe, in Orange county, and Hackensack, N. J.). They were all well patronized and popular. We will give the names of some of them, beginning with the Coffee House, kept by John Coffee, at South Field; the Ward House, at Pleasant Valley, kept by Thomas Ward; the Sloat House, at Sloatsburg, kept by Isaac Sloat; Suffern and Wanamaker Houses, at Suffern; the Winter House, at Mahwah; Prospect House, at Ramsey; Bamber House, at New Prospect, now Waldwick; Hopper House, at Hohokus (formerly Hoppertown); the Zabriskie House, at Red Mills. Of these there are three still standing, though not used as public houses. These are the Coffee and Sloat houses, in the Ramapo Valley, and the Bamber House, at Waldwick.

At the house of Stephen Sloat, "in the Clove," for twenty-three years after the separation of the two counties, the Supervisors of each met in joint session along with one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of each county for the purposes of examining the mortgages, minutes and accounts of the loan officers appointed in the county of Orange under the act for loaning moneys belonging to the State, and here also the stages were wont to stop for dinner.

In 1798, when the separation between the counties occurred, the division line was so fixed as to place the Sloat property within Orange county, but in 1800, upon representation made by the people of that section, it was changed to where the line now runs.

The first mill erected in this part of Sloatsburg was built in 1815. It was a frame structure, about 20x60 feet, and three stories in height, with two wings. It was constructed by Jacob, the second son of Isaac Sloat. (A tannery had been operated by Isaac Sloat as early as 1792). This gentleman was something of a mechanical genius and was the founder of the industries which lent to the village so much importance.

This mill, which is still standing, marks the exact spot where one of the old Indian proprietors had his wigwam, and here the daughter of Van Duser, and wife of Isaac Sloat, used to visit the Indian women and was taught to use the bow and arrow. One of the wings of this mill was used as a machine and smith's shop, where heavy mill screws and vises were made. In the main part cotton cloth was made, and a department was occupied as a shop for making stocks and dies, in which Mr. Sloat led the New York market.

About 1824 Charles Danforth, who later became prominent as a manufacturer of cotton machinery and still later of locomotives, was engaged with Mr. Sloat as foreman at a salary of \$1.25 a day. While thus engaged he conceived the idea of a new spindle, which after much labor and time spent, he was forced to abandon. Mr. Sloat, who had watched with interest Mr. Danforth's efforts, offered to help him on condition that he should share the profits. Mr. Sloat went to his shop and made an addition of a conical cap to the spindle and thus was the cap spindle made a success. For this improvement Mr. Danforth took out patents in this country and Europe and thus laid the foundation of the large fortune he amassed.

It is not told that Mr. Sloat benefited much by his mechanical skill in this instance. Indeed, it is pretty certain that he did not.

The mill at Sloatsburg continued running on cotton cloth with but few changes until 1836, when some enlargements were made in the building. In 1838 weaving was discontinued and the mill was run on cotton warps. In 1839 the firm of J. Sloat & Co. was established, with Jacob and Stephen Sloat and John Quackenbush and John S. Westervelt as partners. New and improved machinery was put up and the making of cotton twine was added to the business. Mr. Sloat having, in 1840, patented a process for dressing cotton twine, the demand for it became so great that all the spindles were turned to the making of it. This led to the erection of the first brick mill, in 1846, 152x34 feet, which increased the output from 2,500 pounds per week to 6,000 pounds. In 1853 the Sloatsburg Manufacturing Company was incorporated. This company comprised the members of the old firm. In 1857 one hundred and twenty-eight feet was added to the length of the mill. By this enlargement the capacity was increased to 8,000 pounds per week.

Both Stephen and Jacob Sloat were men of domestic habits and took no prominent part in public affairs, but stood high in the respect and confidence of their fellow townsmen.

Both married in early life, Stephen's wife being Miss Mary Ward, sister of Thomas Ward. They had a good sized family of children. Those who grew up were Isaac, Peter, John Jacob, William L. F. and Spencer S., Nancy, who married James S. Wanamaker; Emeline, married Charles D. Wood, and Mary Jane, who became the wife of Judge Andrew E. Suffern.

Jacob Sloat married Miss Sarah Hollenbeck, of Great Barrington, Mass. Their children who grew to maturity were: Louisa, Martha, Mary Ward and Henry R. Louisa married G. Myers Anderson, of Hackensack, N. J. Martha became the wife of N. P. Fassett, a lawyer, of Elmira, N. Y. She is the mother of Jacob Sloat Fassett, who became prominent in the politics of the State of New York, and was the candidate of the Republican party for Governor. The third daughter, Mary Ward, married Dr. Parkhurst, a physician of Brooklyn.

Henry R., who is the youngest of the children who grew up, is living at Sloatsburg, and is well known throughout the town and county, as well as in New York city, where his business is. He has been twice mar-

ried. His first wife was Henrietta, daughter of Joachim Shults, of Florida, in Orange county, N. Y., and his second wife is Caroline Shults, also daughter of Joachim Shults.

Mr. Sloat served one term as Supervisor of the Town of Ramapo.

STERLINGTON.

Coming down the valley we reach this hamlet, which is a station on the Erie R. R., at the junction of the Sterling Mountain railroad, which road was opened in 1865. At that time it became known as Sterling Junction and was so called until 1882, when a post office was established and given the name it now bears. It was known as the Y when the Erie road was first opened, because here was a Y on which locomotives were turned, and a short time later the name was changed to Pierson's Depot.

It was here that Samuel Sidman lived during the Revolution. It was he who gave the name to the lower part of the Ramapo Pass or Clove during the Revolution. Nearby where he lived is an old cemetery. Here are rough stones which bear the following inscriptions: "Nancy Smith, died Aug. 19th, 1803, aged 77;" "Agnes Smith, born Feb. 4, 1760, died Aug. 10, 1804." Another stone bears this inscription: "1776, Ac to Bar 13 G. N. or G. V." Who rests there is not known.

John Sloat, who was shot during the Revolution, was interred here, but his remains were removed to a cemetery on Staten Island by his grandson, Waddington Sloat, a son of the late Commodore Sloat, about four years since.

From this point has been opened a private road through the mountains to those beautiful little lakes, Negro Pond and Shepperd's Pond, and across to the Wanaque Valley at Ringwood. This under restrictions is much used by the public for pleasure driving and affords one of the most charming drives to be imagined, amid scenery of surpassing beauty. Near these lakes are several handsome residences of wealthy and prominent New York city people.

MINERALS, ETC.

While at Dater's forges, at Ramapo works, and at Hillburn and Suffern, iron works have been operated, still so far as known no iron ore or other minerals used in these works was mined or produced within the



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town of Ramapo. Ore was brought in from the neighboring sections of Sterling and Ringwood to supply the demands of these places. So far as yet developed there are no valuable minerals within the town. On the high plateau about two miles south of Ladentown is a section sometimes called Egypt. Specimens of copper ore have been found, but as yet no effort has been made to explore it. When the Erie Railroad, in 1854, built its double track there was opened at Ramapo village a quarry of granite for use in building bridges, retaining walls, etc. Work was continued for some time and stone shipped to various points, both east and west, on its line. This stone is not a pure granite, but has good strength and has in numerous instances been used in the erection of fine dwellings. At the time the railroad tunnel was built through the Bergen Hill, west of Hoboken, a large quantity of stone was taken from this place and used for abutments for bridges at street crossings. Later a quarry was opened to the westward of Hillburn on property owned by J. C. Conklin, of Haverstraw. It was a part of the Edward Suffern estate. This has been worked by different operators from that time. Mr. Hart furnished this stone for one of the arches of the beautiful Washington Bridge across the Harlem river. Much stone has been taken from here for residences in Tuxedo Park and some in Paterson and Newark. Messrs. Beeraft & Dunwoodie are doing a considerable amount of work here at present, and other enterprises in the same line are in contemplation. At the extreme western end of Hook Mountain, at Mt. Ivy, Mr. Gurnee is operating a stone crusher. His output is used for making roads.

The following is a list of the citizens of Ramapo who served in the Rebellion, possibly not all having lived therein at the time of enlistment:

In 17th N. Y. M.—William Hendricks, Robert Johnson, Harrison Hoyt, William Hoyt, Tunis Johnson, Alex. McMurty, Andrew Osborn, Benj. S. Slinn, John H. Goetchius, Chester Forshee, Wilbur H. Furman, Cornelius Blauvelt, S. P. Blauvelt, John W. Crum, Edward Crum, Leonard Cooper, Alpheus J. Coe, Augustus Coe, Abraham L. Vanderbilt, Jacob Wanamaker, I. Whaley, Alfred Smith, D. Springsteen, Chas. Young, Alfred Young, Robert Springsteen, Lewis Dusenbery, Nelson Conklin.

In 78th N. Y. V.—Jacob Ackerman.

In 1st N. Y. V.—Fred J. Pierson, John Quinn, W. Wallace, Martin Conklin.

In 143d N. Y. V.—S. B. Decker.

In 7th Heavy Artillery—Abram Storms, Charles Babcock, Geo. H. Cronk, James Morrison, J. H. Dow, Dewitt Garrison.

In 56th N. Y. V.—John M. Barns, L. McElroy, James Clark.

In 124th N. Y. V.—J. J. Nichols, Samuel Call, Isaiah Conklin, J. H. Finck, George Conklin, John Degraw, Edmund Allen, Jas. H. Barns, Wm. Becraft, Harvey Bush, Charles Cable, J. C. Read, W. Twigg, Joseph Wood, Rufus Hoyt, William Cronk.

In 8th N. Y. V.—Jacob H. Debaun.

In 127th N. Y. V.—Peter Tallman, James Creancy, Simeon Forshay, Geo. W. Wood.

In 8th N. J. V.—Charles H. Acres.

In 133d N. Y. V.—Abram Furman, M. Newman.

In 1st N. Y. Zouaves—Charles Duval.

In 1st N. Y. Engineers—Geo. McLaughlin, Richard B. Riker, Isaac Babcock, S. H. Barbarrow, Sylvester Barns, Adam Becraft, J. A. Becraft, Josephus Ronk, Isaac Smith, Chas. Whritenour, Stephen S. Wood, C. Youmans.

In 89th N. Y. V.—James W. Babcock, J. J. Hogan.

In 12th N. Y. M.—Thomas Allen, John D. Blauvelt, Joseph Dicks, James E. Frails.

In 22d N. Y. V.—Geo. Babcock, Wm. Demarest, Theodore Kingsland, Chas. Montaya.

In 9th Mass.—Gerard B. Hammond.

In 13th N. Y. V.—Charles Gainer.

In 33d N. J. V.—Harmon T. Blauvelt.

In 5th N. Y. V.—Garret G. Garrison, H. H. Ramsay.

In 145th N. Y. V.—Anthony Cately, Samuel A. Lockwood, Luther Maroney.

In 25th N. Y. V.—John Coleman, Rinear Fisher.

In 168th N. Y. V.—Bartley Brown.

In 1st Heavy Artillery—Frederick Myers.

In 2d N. Y. M.—Charles Norris.

In N. Y. Cavalry—Samuel Cole.

In 90th N. Y. V.—J. J. Conklin, W. H. Conklin.

In 25th N. Y. V.—Walter Conklin.

In 117th N. Y. V.—Samuel Edwards.

In 74th N. Y. V.—W. H. Cable, Henry DeGraw, Charles Slawson, Reuben Slawson, James Storms, Thomas Storms.

In 40th N. J. V.—Jacob D. Cole.

In 45th N. Y. V.—Ernest E. Eike, E. E. Eike, Jr.

In 6th Heavy Artillery—Alfred Conklin, Orville Conklin, Valentine Fields, William Higgins, C. B. Tenure, George H. Jones.

In 95th N. Y. V.—William Conklin, Reuben Riggs, Elias Scott, Richard Smith, Jacob Swartwout, Theodore Smith, E. E. Paul, Thomas Hastings, Casper Moffatt, Peter M. Osborn.

In 63d N. Y. V.—Isaac Cooper.

In 53d N. Y. V.—Henry Finney.

In 112th N. Y. V.—John W. Everett.

In 10th R. I. V.—James A. Flate.

In 24th N. Y. V.—Joseph Fredenburg.

In 26th N. Y. V.—James DeGroat, Obadiah DeGroat.

In 15th Heavy Artillery—Henry Garrison, George W. Patterson.

In 54th N. J. V.—Richard Odell.

In 61st N. Y. V.—Ralph G. Iserman, Judson Young.

In 156th N. Y. V.—Matthew Lawrence.

In 2d N. Y. V.—Andrew Leport.

In 79th N. Y. V.—James H. Goetchius.

In 5th U. S. Light Artillery—A. J. Hemion.

In 19th N. Y. V.—S. F. Hungerford.

In 142d N. Y. V.—David May.

In 1st N. J. Artillery—Cornelius McElroy.

In 71st N. Y. V.—Josiah F. Quimby.

In 1st Mich.—T. F. Reed.

In 14th N. J. V.—Arthur Roxby.

In 2d Infantry—John E. Secor.

In 9th N. Y. V.—Herman Shewitt.

In 6th N. Y. V.—Arch. Smith, Garret Smith, George Smith, Daniel Starr, Jr., W. H. Wood, Jacob S. Starr, Nelson Wood.

In 57th N. Y. V.—John Smith, A. J. Wilson.

In 144th N. J. V.—Daniel Starr.

In 54th N. Y. V.—Samuel Starr, John VanZile.

In 2d N. Y. V.—Frank K. Stephens.

In 7th N. Y. V.—John F. Tienley.

In 1st Wisconsin Cavalry—John M. VanHouten.

In 15th Cavalry—W. H. VanVoorhis.

In 13th N. J. V.—Cornelius H. Wanamaker.

In 176th N. Y. V.—Erastus D. Whitten.

In 15th Heavy Artillery—Marcus Whritenour, Henry E. Wright.

In 3d Cavalry—Cornelius T. Youmans.

In 114th N. J. V.—Joseph Youmans.

In 1st Marine Artillery—John C. Young.

In Navy—John Whritenour.

Others in Service—John Funston, P. A. Eller, John Hennion, Frank Lockwood, George Phillips, William Phillips.

HILLBURN.

Coming farther down the valley about one and a quarter miles we reach this beautiful little village situated in a cove or broadening of the valley. This was a part of the home tract of John Suffern and passed to his son, William, who married Martha, oldest daughter of Crinus Bertholf, a descendant of Dominic Bertholf, the first clergyman to minister to the churches at Hackensack, Aquackanock and Tappan. Crinus Bertholf lived during the Revolution on the Sheffield farm, on the road from Suffern to Pompton. This is the northern part of the Havermyer farm. He was a captain in the New Jersey Militia during the Revolution and was in active service at Elizabethport and Hoboken. In 1804 he purchased property of Adolphus Shuart at Ramapo Works and lived in the stone house just east of the church. This house is noted on Erskine's map of early roads.

At William's death, in 1832, it was purchased by his oldest son, James, from his brothers and sisters.

William's old homestead was built in 1822 and was moved and enlarged in 1860, and became the residence of Mr. James Suffern, he removing from his old homestead east of Suffern, and it is now in possession of his family.

On a small stream which falls into the Ramapo from the mountains to the westward, John Suffern built a saw-mill in 1795, and in 1848

James Suffern built a charcoal forge, throwing a dam across the Ramapo river and combining the power of that stream with that of the former.

To the forge was added, in 1852, a rolling-mill for making car axles and merchant iron. The works gave employment to about thirty men, and the product was principally sold to the Erie Railroad. They were abandoned in 1872. At about this time Mr. Suffern and his son, James Bogert, conceived the idea of having a road cut through the property, it having been previously shut off from outer communication, except by a private road of considerable length. Application was made and the town authorities laid the road which now runs from the old Orange Turnpike at the railroad bridge near Ramapo to the New Jersey line, following along the right or west bank of the Ramapo for the most of the distance. This is now known as Lake avenue. A little later the New Jersey authorities continued this to a junction with the main valley road to Pompton, at the Havemeyer property.

Scarcely had this road been laid when Messrs. George Coffin, George Church and William W. Snow, on behalf of the Ramapo Wheel and Foundry Company, attracted by the beauty and advantages of the location, purchased property of Mr. Suffern and immediately proceeded to plan and lay out a village, to build houses and to encourage and assist their employes to buy lots upon which they could erect permanent homes. Mr. W. W. Snow took for himself a considerable portion of this purchase and erected the large and substantial home he now occupies. It is but just to assert that to Mr. Snow's fostering care of, and interest in the village, it is indebted for its substantial growth and prosperity. Always thoughtful of its welfare, he has been first in devising plans that gave to its prosperity a substantial basis. The first name of the village was Woodburn and it was known by this name until July, 1882, when a post office was established.

Shortly after this purchase by the company and the beginning of building operations, J. Bogert Suffern, who had succeeded to an interest in a part of the property of his father, laid out a section of it and made several sales to individuals. Among these were: Wm. H. Hollister, Lewis Sibly, Charles C. Wight, John Hults, Thomas Heslin, Louis Martin and Lyman Curtis. Thus was the village launched and we shall see the changes which have brought growth and prosperity in their train.

At first about fifteen houses, accommodating twenty-seven families, were erected, and before these were completed, upon suggestion of Mr. Snow and the Rev. Mr. Bouney, of the Ramapo Presbyterian Church, a house suitable for a day and Sunday school was undertaken. At once a subscription was started and money raised for that purpose. This building was ready to be occupied about Christmas, 1873. Mr. J. B. Suffern donated the ground and Mr. James Suffern laid the foundation.

The first day school teacher was Miss Sarah Blauvelt. J. B. Suffern was the first Sunday school superintendent, with Mr. Charles C. Wright as assistant, and the Rev. Perez B. Bouney pastor. To this building have been added two large additions and a class-room, and it has become the main school (building) of the 15th School District of the Town of Ramapo. A church and another school building have been erected, which will have further notice. One of the first things done by the Ramapo Wheel and Foundry Company was the introduction of a water supply taken from the mountain brook heretofore mentioned. By this means a supply of pure water was obtained. Wooden pipes were used to lead the water to the settlement.

In 1876 a brass band was organized, under the leadership of Charles G. Hoar. In 1881 the territory included in the village of Hillburn was erected into a separate school district, No. 15, by William VanWagoner, School Commissioner, it having theretofore been a part of District No. 3 (Suffern). W. W. Snow was chosen as the first Trustee, and J. B. Suffern, Clerk.

July 13th, 1881, the "Ramapo Iron Works" a company, was organized. W. B. Wilkins, of New York, was President; George Church, of Great Barrington, Mass., Treasurer; R. J. Davidson, of Ramapo Works, Secretary; Fred W. Snow, of Hillburn, Superintendent. It may be added that Mr. William W. Snow had a large interest in this company as well as great influence in its management. This company came into existence because of the recent improvements in track equipment for railroads, such as automatic switch stands, split switches, frogs, etc. A foundry was included in the equipment and later a shop for building cars. From time to time additions and improvements have been made until the property they had originally purchased from Mr. George W. Suffern became pretty well covered. Their business having increased to such an extent as to occupy nearly all of their space, a new company,

composed of all the active members of this one together with some new names, was organized and named the "Ramapo Foundry Company." This new company took over the foundry portion of the business of the old company and erected a plant at Mahwah, N. J.

As may be imagined, the year 1881 marked an important period in the history of the village. Beside the works erected by the "Ramapo Iron Works" that company erected several houses to accommodate their workmen. The existence of the "Ramapo Wheel and Foundry Co." at Ramapo and the new life of the "Ramapo Iron Works," and the organization of the "Building and Loan Association," led to a mild boom in the matter of erecting houses here, and some private parties, especially Mr. John J. Hogan, a merchant of Hillburn, and Peter W. McIndoe, of New York, discovering that there was "money in it," took a hand in helping on the work.

Again, on Nov. 1st, 1887, a company called the "Hillburn Power and Building Company" was formed. The object of this company was to erect buildings and furnish power to such parties as might wish to locate in this section. Messrs. W. W. Snow, John C. Messemmer, John J. Hogan, J. Bogert Suffern, Peter W. McIndoe, Dwight B. Baker and J. Louis Suffern were the members of the company. J. B. Suffern was its President; J. J. Hogan, Secretary, and Mr. Messemmer, Treasurer.

The immediate result was that a party from Paterson applied for the building of a silk mill to be furnished with power. The "Power and Building Company" thereupon took a lease from Major James Suffern, of the water power and site where his "rolling-mill" had stood, and proceeded to erect a building, and put in a water wheel, engine, etc., and the party taking the lease filled the mill with machinery for the manufacture of silk. This gave employment to a number of boys and girls, and for a time it was thought to be a good thing, and was no doubt the cause of some of the growth of the village. But like many other silk mills, this one burned down, and its site is now occupied by the building and plant of the Rockland Electric Company. This company was organized to furnish electricity for power and lighting, and obtained the necessary franchise. It is still doing business and has contracts for lighting the villages of Hillburn and Suffern.

Among the organizers of this company were William W. Snow, R. J. Davidson, James B. Pampher, H. C. Wanamaker, R. G. Riggs, Chas. B. Church, J. Bogert Suffern, J. Louis Suffern and J. J. Hogan.

Coincident with the organization of the Rockland Electric Company the Mountain Spring Water Company was formed, with the purpose of supplying water, not only to Hillburn, but Suffern and adjacent territory as well. The necessary franchises for this purpose were obtained. The organizers were: William W. Snow, Chas. B. Church, R. J. Davidson, Fred W. Snow, J. B. Suffern, R. G. Riggs, H. C. Wanamaker, J. J. Hogan, J. I. Traphagen, etc., etc.

The Ramapo Wheel and Foundry Company sold their water works to the new company, taking its stock for their plant, which had recently been improved by replacing the old wooden piping with cast iron pipes.

Immediately upon the organization of the company surveys were made and work begun in establishing the plant in Suffern and improving that in Hillburn.

In 1893 the village was incorporated. The legal steps for that purpose having been taken, an election was held of the legal voters upon the question, "Shall the village of Hillburn be incorporated?" This was decided in the affirmative.

The first election for village officers was held on August 16th, 1893, and the following were chosen:

President—James B. Suffern.

Trustees—James B. Suffern, Henry Becraft, Samuel S. Mapes, Louis Martin.

Treasurer—Schuyler C. Pew.

Collector—Joseph H. Wood.

Mr. Suffern held the office of President from August 16th, 1893, to March 21st, 1899, and Mr. Pew that of Treasurer continuously to the present time. Mr. Joseph H. Wood was elected President to succeed Mr. Suffern and held the office two terms. Mr. Wood was succeeded by Robert Wolf, who is the present incumbent and serving his second term. Those who have been Trustees are Messrs. Fred W. Snow, Joseph B. Williams, John McElroy, Chauncey Andrews, Thomas Gould and John Banker.

The population of the village as shown by the census taken in 1901 is 985.

As has been noticed, among the first things having the attention of our people was church services and the education of the children. Now a building was erected to accommodate these interests and how that

building became the nucleus of the "District School house," has been mentioned. We will now show what further has been done on those lines.

The church work in Hillburn has been done under the patronage and care of the Presbyterian Church of Ramapo Works, and will be treated of in connection with that organization, but we may here note that under its auspices two houses of worship have been erected, they being, first, Brook Chapel, a building for the use of the colored people of the village and vicinity. A suitable lot was donated and a building costing \$1,100 was erected. A considerable portion of this sum was contributed by the colored people themselves. The building was completed during 1892.

Second, a handsome and commodious chapel was erected by the Presbyterians. In this building is a room for preaching service, also a Sunday school room, and in the basement are held church entertainments.

About 1893 a religious movement took place which led ultimately to the establishing of a church in connection with the Methodist Protestant Communion. For several years the Rev. Jacob Troust, with others, had been conducting a mission and had held regular services. In 1899 this culminated in the erection of a building and the establishment of the church of that denomination. Regular services are held and a flourishing Sabbath school is maintained. The church building stands at the south west corner of Fifth street and Hickory Avenue.

When the Presbyterian Chapel was completed, the school building and property had been held by Wm. W. Snow, James B. Sufferin and William W. Hollister, as trustees for the people of the village, to be used for both school and church purposes, the building and improvements being paid for by a system of self-assessment, these trustees turned the title over to the school district, and since then the school district as such has attended to the care and maintenance of them. Improvements have been made in them from time to time, and as previously stated, there are three good sized rooms and a class-room, well furnished and fitted with proper apparatus. The Library has received considerable attention and contains over 500 volumes. It was found, however, that this building was too small, and a new building, 22x50 was erected and fitted up for pupils in the primary grades at a cost of \$2,500. Six teachers are now employed.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

On April 13th, 1894, a resolution of the Board of Village Trustees was passed, authorizing the organization of a fire company consisting of not more than thirty members. Mr. F. W. Snow was appointed chief.

The following were the first members: E. H. Terwilliger, T. F. Keene, W. G. Easton, George Freeman, W. N. Phillips, D. M. Pratt, E. M. Hogan, W. D. Brewster, C. N. Hogan, H. G. Steorees, G. W. Conklin.

May 7th, 1895, a petition of a majority of the taxable inhabitants was presented to the Village Board to make a contract with the Mountain Spring Water Company to install hydrants and furnish water for fire purposes. On June 14th a resolution authorizing the signing of a contract was passed.

On May 28th, 1900, the Village Board entered into a contract with the Rockland Electric Company for the lighting of the streets and ways of the village, the contract to run for five years.

SUFFERN.

The territory embraced within the limits of this village was from 1776 owned by two men, Adolph Wanmaker and John Suffern, the latter owning the greater portion. The families of both these men are still represented in the ownership of property within the village and in the adjacent country.

Mr. Suffern upon his settlement here in 1773 called it New Antrim, after his birth place in the north of Ireland, and in 1797 the post office established here was called by that name, Mr. Suffern being the post-master. This was the first post office established in the town of Ramapo. While Mr. Suffern and his family held to that name, the people of the surrounding country called it the "Point of the Mountain." At a very early date it was considered of importance geographically, because from here radiated roads in many directions, and because here the Post Road on the west side of the Hudson entered the Ramapo Pass. Here at the junction of the Nyack and Haverstraw roads with the Post Road (present crossing of Washington and Lafayette avenues) he built his first

house, in 1773, and in 1776 added a larger one, where he opened a store, which was a distinguished landmark during the Revolution and many years after.

Because of the prominent part he took in the affairs of the county and town, as well as this immediate vicinity, a more extended notice of Mr. Suffern is due. He was born near Antrim, Ireland, November 23d, 1741, and died in his home, New Antrim (Suffern), on November 11th, 1836, aged 95 years. His father's name was William and his mother was Margaret Templeton. He landed at Philadelphia August 6th, 1763, and married Mary Myers, daughter of Andrew and Frances Myers, of Burlington, N. J., January 1st, 1766. Mary was born May 5th, 1745, died February 26th, 1813. After being settled for years at Haverstraw he came to Suffern in 1773. Here he took up the busy career which distinguished him as the largest land-owner in the Town of Ramapo. He was a man of immense energy, which led him to engage in many enterprises, not only at his home, but at Haverstraw as well, and the purchase of land about Elmira and other sections of the State. In this section he engaged in the manufacture of potash, near the Cookson house. On the Mahwah, near Judge Felter's, he had a forge, a grist-mill and a saw-mill, and about one-third of a mile lower down the stream he ran a woolen mill. At Haverstraw, in connection with his sons, Andrew, George and John, he engaged in the manufacture of iron, making nails, nail rods and merchant iron, and obtained large tracts of land in that town. Of his public service it can be said that he was, during the Revolution, a Justice of the Peace, a member of the Committee of Safety for Orange county "below the mountain," and a Commissary of Purchases and Member of Assembly 1781 and 1782. After the close of the war he served in various capacities, Justice of the Peace, Commissioner of Highways and was County Treasurer for Orange county at the time of separation and was appointed the first Judge of the county. He was also the first Senator to represent the district to which Rockland was attached after its erection as a county.

His children were: Margaret, born Oct. 5th, 1767, wife of Peter Allison, mother of Hon. George S. Allison; died in New York city Oct. 19th, 1808.

Andrew, born March 23d, 1770, died at New Antrim (Suffern) Oct. 23d, 1827.

Elizabeth, born Jan. 15th, 1772, wife of John S. Suffern, of Elmira, N. Y., died Oct. 23d, 1827.

Cornelia, born Jan. 31st, 1774, died April, 1859; wife of Dr. Elijah Rosenerants, of Hohokus, N. J.

John, born Feb. 1st, 1776, died in infancy.

Maria, born Sept. 5th, 1778; wife of Christian A. Wannmaker; died at Newark, N. J., March 11th, 1868.

James, born May 13th, 1781; died in New Orleans in 1804.

William, born May 13th, 1783; died July 18th, 1832. He was father of Major James Suffern and Thomas W. Suffern.

George, born April 2d, 1785; died May 31, 1819.

John, born Feb. 6th, 1788; died at Haverstraw, Aug. 23d, 1863.

Edward, born April 7th, 1790; died at Suffern Jan. 4th, 1873. He was educated as a lawyer and served as County Judge, as did his son Andrew Edward. John Suffern's son Edward and his grandson James succeeded to the ownership of all the landed property he had retained in this section, and they operated it in farming for many years.

Not until the year 1841, when, the Erie Railroad having been opened from Piermont to the "Point of the Mountain," and a station established, was the name "Suffern" given to this section. The station building first consisted of a platform on posts with a small box building on it.

The first new building erected after the opening of the railroad was a store by George W. and John C. Suffern. It is still standing and is a part of the wooden structure adjoining on the west, the hotel of Wm. Taylor. Little was done in this building until some years later, two brothers, John W. and Manning TenEyck, purchased it and conducted a general store for a number of years and were followed by Lanson Traphagen, who purchased the building and continued the business.

He still owns this property, but built a new store on the corner of Lafayette avenue and Chestnut street and moved his business to that point, and, along with J. I. Traphagen, opened a lumber yard.

The second building of importance was the brick hotel now owned and kept by William Taylor. Reuben G. Riggs later established the Eureka House on the opposite side of the street, which is now conducted by his son, Reuben G. A later important business was that of a lumber yard and store established by Dwight B. Baker and Erastus



J. C. TALLMAN.

Young. They purchased what is now known as the Comesky block from Mr. George W. Suffern and started business. A couple of years later Mr. Young sold his interest to Mr. Baker, who continued it until it came into possession of Mr. Frank Comesky. Later Mr. John H. Wanamaker erected the large building on the southeast corner of Orange and Wayne avenues and Lafayette avenue, and here Mr. James B. Campbell opened his drug store. He is still at this stand after a long and successful career.

In 1869 the Ramapo Land and Water Company and the Suffern Dime Savings Bank were chartered, but as they never got beyond that stage need no further notice.

Considering the advantageous location and attractiveness of the surrounding country, it must be owned that the growth of the village was slow at first.

It is necessary to explain here that Edward Suffern, before his death, which occurred in 1873, divided his property, which included the greater portion of the present settled portion of the village, between his four sons, George W., John C., Andrew E. and Charles C., George W. taking the northwestern section lying to the north of Lafayette avenue which includes the old site of the Suffern family, and also the railroad station. John C. obtained the southwesterly section, which is bounded on the north by Lafayette avenue and on the east by Washington avenue. This he sold to Mrs. Ann Maria Maltbie. Her heirs still own a considerable portion of it, but a large section is thickly built upon, including what is locally known as the west ward. Andrew E. was given the southeasterly portion, lying east of Washington avenue, and is now owned by Messrs. Frank and James R. Comesky. It is being rapidly built upon. Charles E. became the owner of the northeastern portion, upon which was the home of his father. Charles's portion lay on both sides of Lafayette avenue and east of Washington avenue, and included the sites of the manufacturing enterprises his grandfather established.

TALLMANS.

Three miles east of Suffern, on the Erie Branch, is the little hamlet of Tallmans. In 1836 Tunis I. Tallman opened a store here and a railroad station was built in 1844. The postoffice was established in 1860 with Henry T. Tallman postmaster. In 1875 a Congregational Church was built, a Sunday school having been organized seven years previous.

The place now contains about two dozen houses, several stores, shops, mills, etc. As the name of the place is that of one of the oldest and best known families in the county, we will here insert the Tallman Genealogy, which follows in the line of James C. Tallman, a resident of the place. The progenitors of this family were among the earliest settlers and landowners in the county and have always taken an active interest in its affairs. The records in the county show Tallmans have acted from the earliest times as public officials, members of the family having filled the offices of Assemblyman, Surrogate, Sheriff, Supervisor, Assessor, Justice of the Peace, etc. They also took an active part in the Revolutionary and Civil Wars and War of 1812, serving in the American army both as officers and privates.

The Tallmans in Rockland county are descended from Douwe Harmensen Taelman, who came to America from the province of Friesland, Holland, in the ship *Brownfish*, with Dirckie Teunise, his wife, and four children, in June, 1658. The family is of ancient origin, entries of baptisms and marriages of Taelmans having been found in the records of the Dutch Church of Austin Friars, London, E. C., England, dated as far back as 1595.

The name, originally spelled "Taelman," means "a man of many tongues," a linguist, or an interpreter. It has passed through many changes, those of Taelman, Taleman, Talaman, Taelma, Talama, Talemma, Taulman, and several others having been variously used until the beginning of the 19th century, when that of Tallman was generally adopted by the descendants of Douwe Harmense, as he was generally known.

Douwe Harmense Taelman settled in New Amsterdam (New York), but prior to 1662 removed to Bergen (Jersey City), N. J., where he seems to have lived until his death in 1678. He and his wife, Dirckje Theunise, were members of the Dutch Church at Bergen at the opening of the records in 1664. On May 12, 1668, he received from Governor Philip Cartaret a patent for several tracts of land in and about the town of Bergen, N. J., upon one of which he resided. This Bergen property finally came into the sole possession of Douwe's son Theunis, who sold it Oct. 3, 1703, to Mattys De Mott of Bergen for £160 10s.

Between 1671 and 1678 Douwe Harmense purchased a large tract of land at Nyack, N. Y., including what is now the business portion of

the village, being about a mile in width and extending from the Hudson river back to the Nyack hills. This tract was known as the Douwe Harmense Patent and lay between the Claes Jansen patent on the south and the Teunis Paulsen patent on the north. Subsequently he purchased another tract of 250 acres, which is described as bounded on the east by his first purchase and by land of Claes Jansen, south by land of Daniel Clarke, etc., west by the middle of the Haekensack river and north by the top of a certain hill called Essawetene.

The children of Douwe Harmense were Harman, Douwe, Direkje, Jannetie and Theunis. Of these Theunis was born at Bergen, N. J., and married (first) in 1694 Brechje, daughter of Peter Haring, of Tappan, and Margaretta Janse Bogert of Bedford, Long Island, and (second) on January 11, 1710, Marguetje, daughter of Myndert Hogencamp.

The county of Orange (including then the present Rockland county) was organized Nov. 1, 1683, and Theunis Taelman was appointed its first High Sheriff, serving until 1702. He removed to Nyack about the time of the grant of the Douwe Harmense patent there and appears to have become possessed of the greater part, if not all, of that property after his father's death; his total holdings, including his own subsequent purchases, comprising some 3600 acres. He continued to live in Nyack until his death on July 17, 1739.

The children of Theunis Taelman by his first wife were Direk, Gritje, Direkje, Douwe, Marytie, Brechie, Harman and Jan, and by his second wife, Brechie, Jannetje, Teunis, Harne and Autje. Of the children by the second marriage, Harne became the owner of the lands comprised within the original Douwe Harmensen patent and after his death the property was divided under his will among his sons in three equal parts, the north side to Harmanus, the middle to Thunis and the south to Abraham. The ancient Tallman homestead on Broadway, Nyack, stands upon the northern portion of the original patent allotted to Harmanus (see above) and is believed to have been commenced by Theunis Taelman about 1678. It is still in good condition, having been enlarged at four different periods and is now in possession of Miss Clara Tallman, daughter of the late Teunis Depew Tallman, who was the son of Mychel Tallman, one of the sons of Harmanus Tallman. It will thus be seen that this old house has been in the continuous possession of the family for six generations.

Returning now to the children of Theunis Taelman by his first wife, Breehje Haring—Jan, born January 12, 1709, was a farmer and lived at Tappan. He married about 1735 Helena Blauvelt, daughter of Gerret Blauvelt and Marytie Krom of Tappan. The issue of this marriage were Theunis, Gerret, Breckje and John, of whom John, a farmer, born at Tappan Sept. 3, 1751, lived at Greenbush, near Tappan.

During the Revolutionary War John Tallman served as a private in Col. Ann Hawkes Hay's Orange County regiment of militia from the Haverstraw precinct, which was employed in active service. He also acted as a scout and must have rendered valuable services to the American Army at that time, as there is a tradition in the family that the British offered a reward of 35 guineas for his capture. This is further borne out by the fact that on Nov. 1, 1786, he was commissioned by Governor Geo. Clinton an Ensign in Capt. Cornelius J. Blauvelt's company in Major Peter Tallman's Orange County Corps of militia in the Tappan precinct, in consideration for his services during the war. He witnessed the execution of Andre at Tappan. On March 23, 1797, he bought a farm of 157 acres from John Goetschius for £1525, at what was then known as Masonicus, in the town of New Hempstead, originally a part of the old Zabriskie patent, and shortly after erected a house thereon which is still standing, where he resided until his death in 1839. This locality, now known as Tallman, probably received its name from him, as he was the progenitor of all the people of that name now living there.

John Tallman about 1777 married Fanny Mabie, daughter of Abraham Mabie and Maria Van Arelant of Tappan, and had issue—Bridget, Mary, John, Tunis and Abraham I. At his death, his farm was divided among his three sons in nearly equal portions, his son Abraham I. Tallman receiving the most northerly portion, upon which stands the house erected by his father in 1797.

Abraham I. Tallman, born July 14, 1793, continued as a farmer at Tallman and during the War of 1812 served as a Corporal in the 83rd Regiment of N. Y. Militia. He was Assessor of the town of Ramapo for several years. He married, Sept. 14, 1814, Maria De Ronde, daughter of Henry De Ronde and Heleche Van Nostrand of Spring Valley, who was connected also with the Onderdonk, Vanderbilt, Snediker and Lent families, and they had one son, John A. Tallman.

John A. Tallman, born May 16, 1815, like his father was a farmer and lived in the old homestead at Tallman. He served several years in

the New York State Militia, being commissioned a Sergeant in the 160th Regiment on Oct. 10, 1837. On Dec. 8, 1842, he married Caroline Conklin, daughter of William Conklin and Ann Wilson of Ramseys, N. J. Caroline Conklin's father was an ensign in the 3rd Regiment of N. J. Militia during the War of 1812, and her grandfather, William Conklin, was in active service during the Revolutionary War and was commissioned an ensign in the Orange County Regiment of N. Y. Militia in 1783. Her maternal grandfather, Albert Wilson, also served as a private and sergeant in Bergen county, N. J., and Orange county, N. Y., regiments during the same war.

The children of John A. and Caroline (Conklin) Tallman are as follows:

(1) John Harvey Tallman, carpenter, residing at Nyack, N. Y., married Elizabeth Wilkes.

(2) Abram Tallman, builder, residing at Englewood, N. J., married Maria Zabriskie in 1870 and has four children, Abram, William, Margaretta and James Albert.

(3) William Tallman, farmer, residing at Tallman, married Christina Terhune.

(4) Anna M. Tallman, married Charles E. Post in 1873. They reside at Tallman and have one child, Charles Claude.

(5) Carrie L. Tallman, married Harry R. Sutherland in 1895.

(6) James Cornell Tallman, who with his sister, Mrs. Carrie Sutherland and Mr. Sutherland occupy the house built by John Tallman in 1797, (which is still in a good state of preservation), and own the land inherited by their grandfather, Abram I. Tallman. They are engaged in the business of growing violets, at which they have been very successful. Mr. Tallman has a large collection of Revolutionary relics, and rare old books.

MONSEY.

Monsey is the next village east of Tallmans and is about five miles from Suffern. The land here was bought by Eleazar Lord, President of the Erie Railroad, in 1840, and a station platform was built and the place was named Kakiat. It was soon after changed to Monsey, a name of Indian origin. In 1843 a store was built by Aaron Johnson, and three years later a post office was established, with Mr. Johnson as post-

master. In 1879 Brewer Fire Engine Company was organized, with H. E. Sherwood the first foreman, and in 1883 a Division of Sons of Temperance was formed in the place. In the meantime the village had grown slowly by the addition of stores, hotels, shops of various kinds and a steam feed mill. Among its principal merchants and business men have been Levi Sherwood, Fred Van Houten, Glode Requa, Samuel Blanchard and Leonard Swartz.

The first church here was the True Reformed Church, organized in 1824, in the center of what was then a farm neighborhood only. It was caused by the Seceder movement, when Rev. James D. Demarest and sixty-eight of the members of the Brick Church of Hempstead left that denomination owing to the differences in theological opinions which had lasted many years. The first building stood about one-third of a mile north of the present village, where they worshipped until 1869, when they moved into a new building in the village itself. The church was connected with the one in Nanuet in the support of a pastor until the death of Rev. John R. Cooper.

In 1851 a Congregational Sunday school was started in Monsey, and in 1871 the building formerly used by the Seceders, which had been moved and rebuilt, came into the possession of the Congregational society, where regular services were continued.

The Methodist Church was organized here in 1871 and the house of worship dedicated in 1873. It is associated with those of Montvale and Saddle River in the support of a pastor.

The town meetings are now held at this place. At first they were held at the residence of Theunis Cuyper, near the Brick Church, and then from 1802 to 1863 at Cassady's Corners. The Town Clerks from 1791 to 1902 were: Gilbert Cooper, J. Conklin, Jr., A. Cassady, G. T. Cooper, Andrew Onderdonk, G. Sarven, J. Knapp, T. Cooper, James Taylor, Isaac Finch, T. J. Cooper, Peter Tallman, T. Cooper, J. G. Sarven, D. D. Aekerman, Thomas Reed, W. H. Gray, W. H. Parsons, Esler Sherwood, J. H. Abrams, J. L. Crane, E. H. Cooper, Warren Blanchard, J. Zabriskie and A. S. Brush.

SPRING VALLEY.

Before the building of the Erie Railroad, in 1841, there was no such place as Spring Valley. The whole section between Monsey and Nanuet

consisted of farm houses and fields, but when a station was built to accommodate the scattered inhabitants living around there in 1842 the thrifty village sprang into existence and soon became the largest village in the township of Ramapo. It was first called Pascack, but the name it now bears was given at the suggestion of Samuel C. Springsteel. The first store was established by Henry Iserman in the station. The next was by Jacob T. Eckerson. The post office was started in 1848 and the postmaster of Monsey, Aaron Johnson, acted until Levi Carman was appointed. The postmasters following him for a number of years were: Richard W. Coe, Garret DeBaun, Erastus Van Zant, John A. Johnson, Andrew Smith, S. H. Burr, E. B. Johnson, Jacob E. Haring, John D. Blauvelt, George Tallman and David C. Inglis. The Fairview House, a large hotel, was built in 1869 by Jacob A. Van Riper on the grounds on which county fairs have since been held. Soon after this hotel was built a tract of land known as the Noyes property was laid out into lots and sold, and although the real estate enterprise failed at first, it resulted later in the outgrowth of the village in that direction. Another enterprise was conceived by which to establish a city, called Alturas, between Spring Valley and Monsey. It was the brain work of a lawyer, Walter H. Shupe, but like all other of his schemes, it failed of success, and somebody had to lose by it.

In 1861 a fire engine company was organized and called Columbia Fire Engine Company No. 1. Andrew Smith was Foreman at first and John G. Cooper Assistant Foreman. The Spring Valley Academy Association was organized in 1866 and Amity Lodge, No. 192, I. O. O. F., was instituted in 1867. A Good Templar Society flourished awhile and other societies, business places and professions were added to make up the growth of the village from the time the railroad came to the financial panic in 1873, when a season of depression followed. A few years previous to the close of the century the place awoke to a renewal of activity and now (in 1902) it is building up rapidly and expanding, with Suffern its only rival along the Erie Branch. In 1902 the village, after several ineffectual attempts, was incorporated by a vote of 30 majority in favor.

The first church in the Valley was the Reformed Dutch, a branch of the Brick Church, Hempstead. The members of the latter society living near Spring Valley grew tired of going so far, and so they met in 1850 and organized with fifty-six members and in 1853 built a church.

The pastors have been: Rev. John R. Brock, 1865; Rev. Marshall B. Smith, 1869; Rev. Richard DeWitt, 1871; Rev. Peter E. Kipp (Stated supply), 1876; Rev. Daniel Van Pell, 1877, and Rev. C. E. Crispell, 1879.

A Baptist society was started in 1867, through the exertions of the Baptist people of Nanuet, the pastors of the latter church preaching at Spring Valley at regular intervals, and then in 1870 the society in Spring Valley became independent as a separate church and called Rev. W. H. Sherman as pastor. He was followed by Rev. F. Greaves in 1873, who soon resigned his charge and the society struggled on to maintain its existence under charge of Mr. E. J. Hillman until 1875, when the work was given up, owing to a heavy mortgage on the property.

The Methodist Church was organized here in 1859, although services had been held since 1853 quite regularly. The church building was completed and dedicated in 1860. At first it was associated with the church at Viola, but in 1861 began a separate existence, except during the two years when it was associated with the Middletown Church.

In the year 1886 trouble arose in which the congregation became divided over the question relating to the charges made against the pastor, Rev. George R. Bristol. One party sustained him all through the bitter contest and the other was opposed to him. The trouble also extended into the courts between some of the members on personal matters growing out of the affair, and for several years these disorders continued. Mr. Bristol after awhile left the Methodist denomination and started, with his adherents in Spring Valley, a Congregational Church. Here he remained for some time, after which he left the ministry altogether and assumed the law practice. Rev. Henry Margetts is pastor of the Congregational Church at present.

An Episcopal Church, known as St. Paul's is also at Spring Valley, dating from 1868. The rectors of the parish have been, following after the pioneer mission work by Rev. S. Hitchcock, of Sparkill: Rev. R. S. Mansfield, 1868; and Revs. Joseph Stagget and Thomas Stephens.

VIOLA.

Viola is about four miles north of Monsey. It was for a long time known as Mechanicsville, but as there was another place by the same name in the State, the post office, when established there in 1882, was



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called Viola, and thus the name of Mechanicsville was lost. The name Viola was chosen, it was said, after the name given to an infant born in the almshouse at about the same time. The County Almshouse is located a short distance west of this little hamlet, and Forshay's cigar factory is quite near. A few business places were started in Viola in about 1824. The first postmaster was John H. Goetelius. Both Baptist and Methodist Churches have been established at Viola and have been carried on with varied success. One mile east of Viola is Cassady's Corners. At this place Archibald Cassady dwelt over a hundred years ago and at his house town meetings were held for many years.

The "Brick Church" (Reformed Dutch) is located east of Viola. It was established in 1774. The first church was built in 1788, and the present house of worship in 1856. It was called the "Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of West New Hempstead." The early pastors were: David Marinus, 1774; Peter Leydt, 1789; G. G. Brinkerhoff, 1793; James D. Demarest, 1808; Jefferson Wynkoop, 1824; Peter Allen, 1837; John R. Brock, 1862; G. J. Van Nest, 1865; Henry Matice (a supply), 1869; B. T. Statesir, 1872.

HEMPSTEAD.

This name does not at present denote any particular locality, except in connection with the two old churches, as there is no village or hamlet by that name. The English Church, or Presbyterian, of "New Hempstead," was started in about the year 1754, and stands about two miles east of the Brick Church. Services were at first in Dutch, but later in English. The first place of worship, near the present structure, was used until 1827. In the struggle which the members of this church had to meet expenses in the early years and in the dark days of the Revolution the records were lost, so that no complete history can be given. Among the early pastors were: Rev. John Lindsley, 1785, and Rev. John Townley, 1788. In 1816 Rev. Samuel Pelton became pastor, and being possessed of great force and energy, he succeeded in giving the church an era of prosperity. There were fifty-nine communicants at the date of his coming and in 1821 one hundred and ten people united with this church at one time. Those who followed Mr. Pelton were: Rev. John N. Boyd, 1840; Rev. Abijah Green, 1852; Rev. Samuel Kellog, 1853; Rev. Thomas Mack, 1866, and Revs. King, Mecker and Thorp.

SHERWOODVILLE.

About two miles north of Viola is a place called Sherwoodville or Furmanville and it is best known as the location of the Wesley Chapel M. E. Church. The church here dates back to 1805, and the Sunday school was organized in 1834, during the pastorate of Rev. L. E. Prettyman. The first superintendent was Rev. James Sherwood. In 1856 a division occurred in the congregation over building a new church and some of the members withdrew and started a church at Viola.

LADENTOWN.

Ladentown is a small place midway between Suffern and Haverstraw, called so after Michael Laden, who opened a store here in 1816. As the sale of ardent spirits followed, the whole community hereabouts reaching far into the mountains, became demoralized, and the evil effects are still seen in the poverty, ignorance, immorality and shiftlessness of the descendants of the first mountaineers. Missionary work has been done here with some success by the Episcopalians and Methodists, both having planted churches and Sunday schools within reach of all.

In connection with these people of the mountains, let us mention a word in regard to a class of the inhabitants known as Jackson Whites. These mountaineers maintain their existence by making baskets and wooden ware, selling berries in summer and begging in winter. The Jackson Whites originated when the Indians were yet living in the lowlands along the Ramapo Mountains. The first race came by a union between the Indians and half breeds on one side, and colored laborers brought from the lower part of the county to work in the Ramapo factories on the other side. The colored people were either freed slaves or their children grown up, and many of the names to-day may be traced as identified with some of the old Holland pioneers of Orangetown, for the slaves in old times bore the surnames of their masters. Inter-marriage among these people has caused them to degenerate intellectually if not physically. The now prevailing race of genuine Jackson Whites is said by the best authority to have come from a union between the negro-Indian descendants and a number of white laborers brought from the same quarter of the county.

CHAPTER XX.

STONY POINT.

By Hon. Thomas H. Lee.

For a number of years prior to the year 1865 those of the inhabitants of Haverstraw township living in the northerly part had been desirous of being relieved from conditions they considered objectionable. The "Creek Nation," as those living along the Cedar Pond Creek west of the present village of Stony Point were called, had many encounters in words and blows with those of the southerly part of the town over the division of the offices. Local pride, which is of so much importance oftentimes in the determination of questions of State, county or town, was the real cause of many if not all of these unseemly brawls. It does not appear that there was any reason based on management or government except perhaps the division of the offices between the northern and southern ends of the town that caused the separation of the present township of Stony Point from Haverstraw, the mother of all the towns in the county except Orangetown, herself the mother of Haverstraw. The demand for separation was felt, however, and in the year 1865 the Legislature passed the following act setting off Stony Point from Haverstraw and incorporating it as a distinct municipality:

Chapter 152.—An act to erect a new town from a part of the town of Haverstraw in the county of Rockland.

Passed March 20, 1865, three fifths being present. The People of New York State represented in Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:

Section I. There shall be erected out of the town of Haverstraw in the county of Rockland, a new town, to be called the town of Stony Point.

Section II. The said town shall be bounded as follows: Beginning at a point on the Hudson river, the southeast corner of the land of Abraham R. Conger, about twenty-one chains southerly from the end of the steamboat wharf at Grassy Point and running thence south about eighty-five and one-half degrees west eighteen chains to the Miniseongo Creek

and southeast corner of said A. B. Conger's land; thence along said Miniseongo Creek, southerly, westerly and southerly to the northeast corner of the land known as the Silas D. Gardner farm; thence along said farm south eighty-eight and one-half degrees west, fifty-four chains to the public road leading from North Haverstraw to Benson's Corner; thence along said public road and west line of the said Silas D. Gardner's farm five chains and eighty-five links to southeast corner of the land of William C. and James A. Housman; thence along the line of said Housman's land to the south line of William Call's land, the south line of Washington Waldron's land, the south line of Benjamin F. Valentine's land and through other lands north sixty-six and three-quarters degrees west one hundred and thirty-five chains fifty links to an apple tree on the south side of the public road in front of Hiram Phillip's house; thence along said road on the south side to the junction of the Monroe and Haverstraw Turnpike; thence along the south side of said turnpike westerly to the division line between Great Mountain Lots three and four; thence following said division line north forty-five degrees west to the division line between the counties of Orange and Rockland; thence along said Orange county line northeasterly to the Hudson river; thence along the west shore of said Hudson river southerly to the place of beginning.

Section III. The first annual town meeting in said town of Stony Point hereby erected shall be held at the store of Robert Kerr, in said town, on the second Tuesday of April, in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-five and in each year thereafter on the third Tuesday of February, and Frederick Tomkins, Abraham S. Vanderbilt and George Knapp are hereby appointed to preside at such meeting, appoint a clerk, open the polls and exercise the same power as Justice of the Peace when presiding at town meetings.

Section IV. Henry M. Peek, Edwin Marks, Henry G. Knapp, William Benson, Abram Weyant and Alexander Waldron be and are hereby appointed to apportion the town debt on each town according to the valuation of the real estate on the last assessment roll of the town of Haverstraw, and the apportionment shall be made between the first day of May and the first day of July, eighteen hundred and sixty-five.

Section V. This act shall take effect immediately.

A peculiar fact is discovered on examination of the boundaries of the new town. For a considerable distance the southerly boundary

follows the southerly side of the "Haverstraw and Monroe Turnpike." This turnpike is now known as the "Gate Hill" road. According to the description, the whole of this great boundary highway was left in the new town, and hence Haverstraw has always escaped its expensive maintenance, although used principally by her inhabitants and but little by the residents in the Town of Stony Point. The highway is now a "county road," and the objectionable feature to the Stony Point taxpayer is not now present, but it has been for many years the cause of many unkind comments on the good faith actuating the enactment. The only reason for it that appeals to one that does not know the real motive is that the boundary line was thus fixed as a concession to the opposition from the remainder of Haverstraw.

After the town meeting provided for in the enabling act, Stony Point, taking her name from the promontory on which the famous assault of Mad Anthony Wayne of the Revolution occurred, entered upon a separate existence and separate history. The area of the town is 17,792 acres, very much the larger part of which is mountainous, rocky and untillable. The general shape of the town is that of an equilateral triangle, the Hudson river forming the easterly side. The northern portion of the town is practically made up of the frowning Dunderberg Mountain and Bear Hill, on the border of Orange county, with the Bock-berg and Kaleberg extending to the southwest in the direction of the Ramapo mountains. The whole surface of the town is rough, hilly and rocky, and uninviting to the tiller of the soil. A wide expanse of woodland extends over the whole town from the distance of a mile west of the Hudson, back to the north and northwest to the limits of Orange county. The hills and mountains are covered with a growth of chestnut, oak and hickory, which is cut in about every twenty-five years for fuel on the brick-yards and the marketing of which is a considerable industry in itself. The arable portion of the surface of the town comprises a very narrow strip along the river from Jones's Point south, which strip widens out and extends further west as the southern limits of the town are approached. The soil is a sandy or gravelly loam. The only water course within the town is the small mountain stream flowing from Cedar Pond in the southernmost borders of Orange county easterly to the Hudson. This was originally called Florus Falls, deriving its name from that of Florus Crom, one of the owners of the Crom or Krom pat-

ent. It is now called Florus Falls Creek and more frequently Cedar Pond creek.

The history, the traditional history even of the inhabitants prior to the early days of the nineteenth century is meagre in the extreme. A few families had left Long Island, Connecticut and New Jersey, and refusing to be enticed by the broad valleys and fertile plains further west had settled on the inhospitable west shores of the Hudson. The Allison family, the Crom family, the Blauvelt family, the latter from New Jersey, the Cuyper (Cooper) family, the Springsteens, the Roses, the Keeslers, the Brewsters—these were some of the principal families prior to the year 1800. Social life was limited in the extreme. The long winter months were occasionally enlivened by a trip over the mountains to Ramapo and Orange county, and in summer market sloops made regular landings for passengers to and from New York, New Amsterdam, the even then pretentious metropolis of the new world, but with means of transportation so meagre, the people lived very much within themselves and seemingly had little to do with the outside world. The home life of the inhabitants was not the happy, joyous and comfortable existence of later days, but was made up of drudgery, sacrifice and hard work. The settlements were few and far between and the population so scattered that the demand for churches and schoolhouses was correspondingly limited. Not until the nineteenth century was well along was a church built in the town. And few localities in the whole State were worse off for educational advantages and facilities.

EARLY LAND TITLES.

In the year 1694 Governor of the Province of New York Thomas Dongan in the name of the Crown of England granted to Capt. John Evans a vast tract of land on the west shore of the Hudson. According to the description it extended "from the land called Haverstraw," at the south bounds of the Highlands (or Stony Point peninsula) north to and beyond the present southern boundary of Ulster county, and from the Hudson river to the Delaware river. The southern boundary was the "north west" line, the most important landmark in the town to-day, as the east and west boundaries of all of the great mountain lots in the Cheesecock patent except No. 1, paralleled this line, and very many of the division lines between the owners of the present day are dependent upon it. This line extended from a point just south of the Stony Point



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peninsula due northwest to the Delaware river. It appears as the northern boundary line of the Garrison farm now owned by B. J. Allison and E. O. Rose and crosses the main road between Stony Point and Tomkins Cove just north of Connell's corner at a point where a limestone cliff stands on the east side of the road. The patent granted to Evans was revoked by act of the Provincial Legislature May 12, 1699, and the land reverting to the crown was afterwards patented in smaller tracts to various parties. From a point on the northwest line another line was run due northeast to the Hudson river, so that the tract within this northeast line, the northwest line and the shores of the Hudson river would measure 1,000 acres. This northeast line is the northwest boundary of all the various smaller tracts fronting on the river from Jones' Point south to Tomkins Cove, and is for that reason a very important landmark to the land title searcher in that vicinity. Its exact location has been the source of much litigation, more or less bitter, as all line fence litigations are, and more or less unprofitable to the litigants. In the very first volume of the New York Court of Appeals Reports one phase of one of the most bitter of these controversies is decided. *Wood vs. Weiant*, 1 N. Y., Reports, page 77. This tract of 1,000 acres was granted to Richard Bradley and William Jamison May 17, 1719. Within its bounds are included nearly all the present village of Tomkins Cove and all the residence lots and tracts north to and including Jones Point. Bradley was a man of influence and held a high position in the administrative circles of the Province, being Attorney-General under appointment made in 1722, and again in 1728. "Kissing went by favor" under the ancient regime as since, and in other grants to Bradley is this exemplified as well as in grants made to his four children during his life time. July 30, 1743, a grant of 106 acres, nearly triangular in shape, was made to Bradley, immediately south of Stony Point and southwest of the northwest line. This 106-acre tract afterwards was sold to James Lamb, who by the purchase of a portion of the Crom patent further south thus became the owner at one time of all the lands between Florus Falls and the northwest line adjoining the river, including the present Stony Point village. By the same grant Bradley obtained a part of the 800-acre Bear Hill tract in the extreme northeast corner of the town and extending into Orange county. In 1749, Oct. 30, a very extensive grant of four different tracts was made to George, Sarah, Catharine, Elizabeth and Mary Bradley, son and four daughters of Richard Bradley. Of these four

tracts the first of 4,290 acres lies for the most part in Orange county; the second of 370 acres lies near Queensboro, in the northwestern part of the town and is practically in the same condition as at that day, viz.: wild wood land. This tract passed by deed to James Johnson, who conveyed it, May 31, 1755, to Theodorus Snedeker. Snedeker was a Tory during the Revolution, and his property being attainted of treason was confiscated and sold by the State after cessation of hostilities to Samuel Brewster, May 15, 1790. The third tract of 840 acres lies immediately northeast of the northwest line and west of the northeast line of the Bradley and Jamison patent. This tract also came into the hands of Theodorus Snedeker, May 31, 1755, who conveyed it five years later to John and George Shaw of New York city, who in turn conveyed it to Samuel Brewster, November 8, 1786. The Mott farm northwest of Tomkins Cove village is a part of this tract, a portion of the whole of which remained in the Brewster family for a number of years or until 1842, when it was sold to Calvin Tomkins. It is, however, better known to conveyancers as the "Shaw tract." The fourth and last tract granted to Bradley's children consisted of five hundred acres on the north side of the Dunderberg Mountain, near the settlement of Doodletown. The manifest eagerness to acquire these extensive stretches of mountain land is perhaps explainable in that the Dunderberg Mountain and the other mountains of the Hudson contained iron, it was thought of valuable quality and in paying quantities. But with the exception of the Forest of Dean Mine across the border in Orange county and the small workings about Cedar Pond in the western part of the town, the hopes were never realized.

That portion of Stony Point south of the northwest line is made up of parts of three patents. The comparatively small tract lying east of and between the Salt Creek or Minisceongo Creek and the Hudson, the extreme north part of the DeHarte patent was granted to Jacobus DeHarte in the year 1685 by Lieut-Governor of the Province Dongan. Balthazer DeHarte, a brother of Jacobus, had in the year 1666 purchased the whole tract from the Indians and had received as well a confirmatory grant of the same from Philip Carteret, Governor of the Province of New Cesarea, or New Jersey, the line between the then Provinces of New York and New Jersey not being then established, and the whole of the present town of Haverstraw and part of Stony Point being considered a part of New Jersey. Later, however, and after the death of

Balthazar DeHarte, subsequent to the year 1672, the error was discovered and Jacobus DeHarte, to whom had been devised by will the whole of the patent by his brother, received confirmation of the same by the patent above mentioned. The greater portion of this patent is in Haverstraw and came into the possession of Capt. Joseph Allison prior to the Revolution, from whom it derived its name of the Allison farm. Capt. Allison conveyed the extreme northerly portion prior to his death to the children of his first wife. The whole of Grassy Point lies in this patent and is a part of the Allison farm.

The Crom Patent derived its name from a grant made by Governor Dongan December 13, 1685, to Florus William Crom. It comprised some 690 acres of salt meadow and upland extending from the Minisceongo or Salt Creek westerly to the "foot of the mountain," and from the 106-acre tract granted to Bradley above referred to on the north, south to the Minnies Falls, as the creek running through the present village of Garnerville was originally named. The original grant was made in undivided shares to those then in actual possession. The portion of the original patent in the town of Stony Point is made up of the Crom farm, now owned by the Lilburn estate, the McMahon and part of the present Washburn farms, nearly all of the present village of Stony Point and the greater portion of the Tomkins property.

The remainder of the town and the greater portion in area is a part of the great Cheesecoaks Patent. In 1702 Dr. John Bridges, who was then Attorney-General of the Province of New York, purchased in company with six others from the Indians a tract of land called Cheesecoaks, lying in the then Orange county. This was bounded north by the Evans Patent (the northwest line), west by the "High hills of the Highlands," south by Honan's or Kakiat Patent and east by the lands of Haverstraw and Hudson river. Dr. Bridges dying soon after the date of this conveyance, the title was confirmed in his wife and the original associates in ownership by royal patent of Anne, Queen of England, March 15th, 1707. In 1738 Charles Clinton surveyed the whole patent and sub-divided it into smaller lots for the purposes of partitioning it among the owners. The eastern portion of the patent, comprising the tillable land, he divided into seventeen lots in two tiers, whose north and south boundaries were perpendicular to the agreed western line of the Crom patent. The remainder, comprising the mountain land, he divided into Great Mountain Lots, oblong in general shape and whose greatest

dimensions were lines practically parallel to the northwest line. These Great Mountain Lots extended far into Orange county. The southerly portions of Great Mountain Lots Nos. 1, 2 and 3, and Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17 and a portion of Lot No. 11 of the smaller subdivisions are in Stony Point. The map made by Clinton of this survey is in the Secretary of State's office in Albany, and is of the greatest value as a record of his exact and painstaking effort. Lot No. 3 in part is made up of the present residence site of Watson Tomkins and the Waldron place in Stony Point Village. Lot No. 4 includes all of Stony Point village west of the King's Ferry road (except Tomkins Heights). On Lot No. 7 is the Treason Hill House, owned by the Lilburn estate. The smaller lots comprise the only fertile portion of the patent. The Great Mountain Lots remain practically as Clinton left them, wild, mountainous and rugged in surface, and covered with timber, except where denuded by the choppers.

HIGHWAYS.

The effect of highways on civilization, especially of a new portion of country, is well exemplified in the history of the settlement of Stony Point. As we have already seen, the lands within the township that can properly be termed fertile and arable are very limited in extent and are almost entirely located in a strip along the river shore, widening out and extending further back to the westward as the approach is made to the town of Haverstraw. The first well defined road or highway was the King's Highway, extending from Tappan northerly to "Call's" Dock just north of the Stony Point peninsula where was the King's Ferry to Verplancks. This must have been in early days a frequently traveled road, as it was the most convenient of access and the shortest route from the Province of New Jersey to the settlements along the Hudson river and what is now northern Westchester and Putnam counties. This old King's Highway exists so far as its location is concerned as it did in the eighteenth century, but Call's Dock and the ferry have long since passed out of existence, the former having been finally destroyed, although a portion of a public highway by the construction of the West Shore railroad and the latter having been long since discontinued for want of patronage. For the smelting of the iron procured from the mines in the western part of the town and its forging into marketable shape along the Cedar Pond Brook, where the water could be impounded and utilized

for power, small establishments were early built. Samuel Brewster ran one or more of these, and for the purpose of enabling the product to be transported the present main highway known variously in the early days as the "road leading from Cedar Pond to Waldron's landing," "the road leading from Brewster's furnace to the Hudson river," "the road leading easterly to the Hudson river from Goetsehius' Mill," was constructed. These two highways—the one running north and south, the other east and west, and intersecting at the present village of Stony Point—determined the line of settlement of the town. Later an important addition or change was made by the extension of the highway along the river shore north of Tomkins Cove. Up to this time the highway ran through the Mott Place, so called, there joined the road coming over the "Buckberg" mountain from the south and continued on over the Dunderberg Mountain to Doodletown, Queensboro and the north, with access to the present Jones Point by a road from the Mott Place, along Equantie or Poughs Creek, to the river near Albertson's.

Another important change was made in the north and south road by its extension from the entrance to the "purgatory road," near the watering trough north of Watson Tomkins residence, in a northerly direction past the present Nickerson residence and joining the highway again at Connell's Corners.

These highways and others connecting them answered the purpose of the people for local communication very well, but for long years the methods and means of communicating with the outside world were limited in the extreme. By way of the river market sloops in the early days and after the invention of the steam engine steamboats afforded access north and south during the seasons of navigation. On the construction of the Hudson River R. R., followed later by the Erie to Suffern and Piermont, residents of the new town of Stony Point were not quite so isolated and shut out from the outside world. These conditions, however, continued and were suffered uncomplainingly until the year 1873, when the New Jersey and New York Railroad Company was organized, and shortly after constructed through the southern part of the county towards its ostensible terminus at Grassy Point. The plans of the company met with opposition, however, and for a number of years the Stony Point station of the road was in a field south of the "Low Land Hill" ravine. Afterwards that portion of the railroad lying in Stony Point

and the station itself was abandoned and Haverstraw, by an extension from Garnerville, became the terminus of the road.

Many efforts to construct a railroad along the west side of the Hudson river had been made prior to the year 1880. Surveys of the New York and Chicago Railroad and the Jersey City and Albany Railroad are on file in New City. The latter road was indeed constructed to Haverstraw. Stony Point, however, was still suffering from that heart sickness caused by hopes long deferred until 1882, when after the usual thimble-rigging and swindling incident to railroad construction, the Ontario and Western railroad was built through the county and soon afterwards sold to the New York, West Shore and Buffalo Railroad Company. After the usual bankruptcy proceedings and foreclosure, this latter road passed into the hands of the Vanderbilts by lease, and is now the West Shore Division of the New York Central. Stony Point was not favored by the railroad company at first as a stopping place for trains and for a considerable time but few trains stopped and then only at a shanty or shelter, where tickets could be obtained from a volunteer agent in the person of Alexander Rose, who was serving without pay. Later the handsome brick station building was built, largely through the efforts of Mr. Watson Tomkins and the station is now one of the best paying of the smaller ones on the line of the road.

VILLAGES.

There are no incorporated villages in the town. There are, however, several centers of population, called variously villages, "corners" or hamlets.

Stony Point is the largest of these and is situated near the southern boundary of the town. Perhaps the oldest house in the village is that owned by B. J. Allison and occupied by Mr. Alexander Denniston, known as the Alexander Waldron place. The construction of this house antedates the Revolution.

Stony Point village is located on a plateau of perhaps one hundred feet elevation above tide-water and is an ideal village site. In its nomenclature it has been singularly blessed with numerous names and designations, both local and colloquial. Theodore Smith built the first store on the corner of the present Main street and King's Ferry road or King's Highway. Soon after William Knight removed from Orange county and ran the store and built a house nearby on land purchased from Smith



William F. Washburn.

and the name of the village, or collection of houses, became Knight's Corners. Mr. Knight was appointed in 1847 the first Postmaster of the office known as North Haverstraw. This was afterwards changed in 1865 to Florus Falls, and still later, in 1870, became Stony Point. About the year 1850 Theodore Smith caused his farm to be surveyed in village lots and blocks and called the village Brewsterville, after his wife's family name. The map of this survey is now on file in the County Clerk's office by this name. Since Mr. Knight's first appointment the Postmasters in order have been as follows: William Govan, William Knight, William Govan, William Brewster, William Govan, William Knight, E. O. Rose, Mrs. M. A. Penny, R. B. Stalter, Jacob B. Hastings, Abram Treadway and Alonzo Dykens.

TOMKINS COVE.

Prior to the spring of 1838, Daniel Tomkins, then of Newark, N. J., prospecting for a limestone available for burning along the Hudson river, and hence convenient for shipping, located the limestone deposit extending across the river north of Verplanck's Point and thrusting itself up in immense cliffs on the west shore north of Stony Point promontory. Looking far into the future with that keen insight so often possessed by successful pioneers, Mr. Tomkins purchased twenty acres of this limestone land and early in the spring of 1838 embarked on the sloop Contrivance with men and stores for what was destined to be his new home, and immediately on arrival laid the foundations of the immense business thereafter carried on in the manufacture of lime. The name of the firm was at first Tomkins, Hadden & Company. Calvin Tomkins, an older brother of Daniel, later became associated with him and the firm was Calvin Tomkins & Company. Still later the Tomkins Cove Lime Company was formed as a corporation and at the present time it is the Tomkins Cove Stone Company that has succeeded to the rich inheritance of enterprise and thrift of the pioneers of 1838. The business at first was confined to the manufacture of lime, principally for agricultural purposes, and many thousands of acres of land in the south were enriched and made fertile from the rocks of Rockland county. It was no uncommon sight in the early days to see six, ten or more three-masted schooners and other vessels lying in the offing, awaiting the opportunity of loading. The owners early added and conducted for many years the large store now conducted near the railroad station by Mr. A. E. Rose.

The shipyard and marine railway now conducted by Rodermond Bros. were also built by the Tomkins Brothers. To the settlement about the quarry, now a beautiful little village, showing in every house the thrift and pride that characterize the citizens, the name of Tomkins Cove naturally was given. It became a post office March 15, 1860, with Warren Searing as First Postmaster. He was succeeded by his son, Walter T. Searing in 1872, who served fourteen years. Since that time the incumbents have been Henry Leut, Theodore Lavender and the present efficient Postmaster, James J. Grady.

GRASSY POINT.

The northern portion of the Allison farm, or, more strictly speaking, that portion of the Allison farm north of the narrow passage, was conveyed as we have seen, prior to his death, by Capt. Joseph Allison, to his three sons, John, William and Joseph. This tract of upwards of one hundred acres at that time was a high bluff or plateau corresponding in general level to that of Main street, Haverstraw, to-day. It was fringed and dotted with large chestnut and oak trees, and its general green and fertile appearance, no doubt, as well as in contra distinction to Stony Point, just north, was the origin of the name, Grassy Point, as now applied to that section and to the collection of houses bordering both sides of the streets leading to the steamboat dock. But how different its appearance. The brick industry—an industry devoted to the manufacture of constructive material, is as well an industry which is destructive of scenic and topographic beauty. The once handsome plateau extending as a tongue of land, crowned with trees and the handsome summer residences of "city folk," has been sacrificed in the brief history of two generations to the demands of the brick trade and is now preempted entirely by brick yards, not in themselves handsome architecturally or structurally, even when running.

The first post office was established at Grassy Point July 30, 1834, became North Haverstraw August 21, 1834, and again Grassy Point September 10, 1836. James De LaMontanya was the first Postmaster and was succeeded in 1838 by Thomas Murphy, who held office until 1844, when Edward Strang succeeded him. Oliver C. Gerow was appointed Postmaster in 1845 and soon after, on September 5, 1845, the office was discontinued. On April 14, 1871, the office was re-established, with Alfred M. Wiles as Postmaster, who served until the year

1884, when he was succeeded by John O'Keefe, 1884-1888. Those who have held the office since are: William Ossman, 1888-1892; Fred Ossman, 1892-1896, and the present incumbent, William Ossman since. The growth of the hamlet at one time was rapid. The deep water at the dock, which was built by Dr. Proudfoot in 1830, enabled river steamers to land at all stages of the tide and the place acquired considerable prominence as a shipping point. This is a glory that is past, however, although a by no means small shipping traffic is still carried on by means of the Emeline on the Haverstraw-Newburgh route and the Chrystenah on the Peekskill-New York route. The handsome residences of a generation ago have, however, departed.

JONES POINT.

Joshua A. Cholwill, a descendant of one of the original grantees of the Cheesecoaks patent, settled at the extreme end of the Dunderberg Mountain on land purchased from one Caleb Seaman in 1791. In process of time others came and the settlement began to take upon itself importance. Ferry lines were established to Peekskill and for many years did a thriving business, the water being too shoal to allow the larger boats on the river to land at that place. A dock was built. Hotels followed, the principal ones being kept by Lewis Constant and Samuel Burd or Bard. The settlement became a general depot for the provisioning of the sailing vessels plying on the river. The place took its name originally from Mr. Cholwill and became Cholwills or Coldwells, corrupted finally into Caldwell's Landing. Early in the nineteenth century, certainly before 1818, the narrow strip of available level land surface along the river front was surveyed and cut up into streets and village lots, to which the name of Gibraltar was given. Later and about the time of the inception of the enterprise of recovering the treasure of Captain Kidd, alleged to be sunk in the river, near the bend in the mountain, these lots were offered for sale at auction on the Merchants' Exchange in New York city. The failure of the Kidd Salvage Company, the only evidence of whose operations is the remains of the coffer dam still visible on the river's edge, had a bad effect, however on the plan and Gibraltar did not attract many real estate investors. The original map, said to have been filed in the Clerk's office of the town of Haverstraw, cannot now be found. Portions of it, however, appear with the record of some of the old deeds in the County Clerk's office. The name is now but a

memory. Caldwell's Landing remained on the map down to recent years. In 1836 Joshua T. Jones of Westchester county, purchasing one hundred acres of the original Bradley and Jamison patent, and a hotel and dock, became one of the leading citizens, and in 1885, when James A. DeGroat became the first Postmaster at the Landing, Caldwells gave way to the less euphonious Jones Point. Mr. Jones was a member of the wealthy New York and Long Island family of that name—the present representatives being Dr. O. L. Jones and Mrs. Mary E. Jones, and the greater part of the 100-acre purchase, together with the greater part of the Dunderberg Mountain, has remained in and is now owned by them.

The advent of railroads in Westchester county early changed the tide of prosperity and Jones Point is now but a hamlet, whose inhabitants are employed in the sand and gravel business of Mr. DeGroat or the Asphalt Refining Works. Mr. James A. DeGroat served as Postmaster until succeeded by William H. Draudt, the present Postmaster.

DOODLETOWN.

Doodletown, deriving its name, according to legend from the fact that some person or persons, some say Wayne's men on their way to Stony Point, others the American Militia at the Battles of Forts Clinton and Montgomery, sang Yankee Doodle, is that portion of Stony Point between Dunderberg Mountain and Bear Hill and south of Saulsbury's, or Iona Island. It is very sparsely populated. In the rage for changing names that has at one time or another seemingly affected all portions of the town alike, this region has now come to be called Mountville. It has for years remained in a state of blissful quietness, but since the establishment of the naval magazine and depot on Iona Island, has begun to assert itself as alive at least. Highland Lake or Hessian Lake or Lake Sinnipink and the site of Fort Clinton lie immediately north of Doodletown and give the locality a certain historic interest, but it cannot be said to have much of a present or future interest or prospect.

IONA ISLAND.

The original name of Iona Island was Weyant's Island, from the name of its owner, George Weyant. It came into the possession of John Beveridge, of Newburgh, in 1847, and afterwards was owned by Dr. C. W. Grant, Beveridge's son-in-law, who carried on an extensive nursery and vineyard. The Iona grape was first propagated here, and gave the

name to the island. In 1868 Dr. Grant failed in business and the island soon after came into the ownership of DeGraff, who later turned it into a picnic or excursion resort. Its general character and use remained such until the year 1900, when it was sold by the representatives of Messrs. Mace and Gwyer, the then owners, to the United States government as a site for a naval magazine and store house. Strictly speaking only that portion of the island lying east of the West Shore Railroad was sold to the Federal Government. This comprises nearly all of the 100 acres of upland. The purchase price was some \$160,000. Immediately on taking possession the Naval Department formulated extensive building plans and the whole cleared portion of the island is now, after two years of extensive constructive work, taken up with buildings, powder houses and railroad tracks. The present officer in charge is Chief Gunner F. W. Whitney. Here ammunition in the form of shells and powder are assembled and transported to the various vessels of Uncle Sam's new navy. It is an admirable site for the purpose and was selected from among many considered available, as it possesses the merits of being inland and thus safe from attack by an enemy, and yet accessible by water and by a trunk line railroad as well, by which shipments can be made to vessels of the navy wherever located along our coasts, and received from manufactories anywhere in the country. It was thought at the inception of the project to possess some element of danger to the immediately surrounding neighborhood, but thus far these fears have happily not been realized. The station is officially a part of the Brooklyn Navy Yard. The post office was established in the year 1900.

"ANTIOCH."

Another small hamlet deserves mention. Early in the nineteenth century a considerable settlement grew up about the grist and saw mill located about a mile west of the present village of Stony Point. Here had been one of the forges of early days, so located undoubtedly to take advantage of the water power of the creek as it cut its way through the ravine. It was known for a time as Beebes Mill, from the owner, Henry Beebe, who, in 1831, purchased the property from Samson Marks and sold it in 1854 to Benjamin Goodspeed. The location of the Methodist Church nearby also had much to do with the growth of the hamlet, which at one time possessed in addition to the mill a blacksmith and wheelwright shop, shoe shop and a general store. This place was called

at one time "Antioch." The trend of population, however, was towards the river and with the abandonment of the grist mill, which is now the site of the Stony Point station of the Haverstraw Water Supply Company, the other places of business also ceased and "Antioch" in Stony Point took its place among other numerous unnamed hamlets of the county and State.

INDUSTRIES.

Peter Hassenelever, a German engineer, miner and proprietor, about the middle of the 18th century visited America and explored the whole of the colonies of New York and New Jersey. He located many water powers and mill sites in different parts of the colonies. Among the iron mines opened by him was one to which his name was given, located on Great Mountain Lot No. 2 of the Cheesecock patent. This mine was operated for a number of years in connection with the Cedar Pond furnace, a furnace on Cedar Pond Brook, the exact location of which is now uncertain. The mine subsequently came into possession of Captain Samuel Brewster, and from it was taken the iron for one of the chains thrown across the Hudson river at various places during the Revolution. The mine passed on the death of Samuel Brewster to his son James, who conducted it until the time of his death, when it came by purchase into the hands of one Bradley, who shortly after failed. It was then sold to Wm. Knight, who in turn transferred it in 1844 to a company called the Haverstraw Iron Mining Company. This company expended a considerable sum in development work and new building, but other iron deposits were less refractory, more valuable and available and the company soon failed. The buildings were torn down and the property then passed to Colfax & Co. The mine lot in the mountains near Cedar Pond and the furnace lot in the "lowlands" near Stony Point village have long ceased to have any speculative value as iron mining or iron manufacturing properties. The present owner lives in Boston and it is said that although sole owner for twenty-five years has never looked at his holdings. Thus passed away apparently all hopes of making Stony Point an iron manufacturing center. Some few years ago Thomas A. Edison, the inventor, prospected the western portion of the town and purchased a considerable area of the low grade iron ore land about Cedar Pond, but no development has ever been carried on as a result of the purchase. The first brickmaking in the town was at Jones Point, then Cholwills, as early

as 1830, when we read that a partnership agreement between Jno. Burgess, Jr., and Elizabeth Norton was entered into for the manufacture of brick at that place.

The first brick yard on the present Tomkins property was erected in the spring of 1843 by Samuel Brewster for his tenant, Zalmon Nickerson. This yard was located about where the southerly half of Reilley & Clark's plant now stands. Bradley Keesler began manufacturing brick as another tenant of Samuel Brewster, occupying the yard where the Acme Brick Company is now located in 1845. These yards were successful and were followed by one erected for and operated by Wm. R. Knapp in 1851, and located immediately north of the Nickerson plant. The same year saw David Mackey beginning a yard on his recently acquired lands north of the Keesler yard, and George Knapp and James Conklin acquired the Nickerson plant. In 1855 another yard was erected about on the site of the present Reiley & Rose plant.

In 1856 Daniel Tomkins, then about to retire from the Tomkins Cove Lime Company, purchased the Brewster property at Stony Point and enlarging the capacity of the above mentioned yards, began the successful manufacture of brick on the larger scale which has continued to the present day. He early associated with himself his sons, Watson and Frederic, under the name of D. Tomkins & Sons. Although the founder of the firm and one of the sons—Frederic—are dead, the firm still exists as landlord of the property. The tenants are the firms of Reilley & Clark, with a capacity of 15,000,000 per annum, employing ninety men; Reiley & Rose, with a capacity of 10,000,000 and employing seventy-five men, and the Acme Brick Company, with a capacity of 8,000,000 and employing sixty men. No one thing has done so much for Stony Point Village as has the Tomkins brick yard interests. Pride and care in the manufacture quickly had its reward in the excellent reputation always enjoyed in the New York, Newark and Eastern markets by Tomkins and Stony Point brick—a reputation well deserved and which has continued to the present day.

At Grassy Point there are several brick plants—Fowler, Washburn & Co., Patrick Brophy, Morrissey & Co. and Kate Dunnigan.

We have already referred to the lime stone crushing plant at Tomkins Cove. At Round Island, immediately south of Iona Island, Donovan & Co. have for a number of years conducted a similar but not as extensive

an industry. The rock, however, is much different, it being a gneiss or granite.

After the exhaustion of the clay for brick-making purposes at Jones Point an immense body of sand and gravel still remained. James A. DeGroat has since the year 1880 conducted a large sand and gravel business, availing himself of this deposit for his supply of material. He employs about fifty men.

At Jones Point there is a considerable industry in the refining of crude asphalt, carried on by the Columbia Construction Company and the Trinidad Construction Company. The crude product is freighted from Trinidad in the West Indies directly to the dock of the companies, where the impurities are removed and the refined product placed in barrels for the New York and other markets. Some 30 or 35 employes are on the payroll.

In 1900 the Rockland Cement Company was organized and a plant for the manufacture of Portland cement installed at Jones Point, but for some reason or other, probably trade competition, the venture was not a success—at least the factory building has remained idle for the past two years.

CHURCHES.

STONY POINT PRESBYTERIAN.

As early as the year 1820 a Presbyterian society was formed in and about North Haverstraw. It was ministered to frequently but irregularly by the pastors in turn of the First Church of Haverstraw, then located on "Calico Hill," Garnerville: Revs. Samuel Pelton, James Hildreth, Livingston Willard and James H. Trowbridge. In 1843 a lot of land for a church was given by Mr. Richard Brewster and a building was erected thereon by the Haverstraw Presbyterian Church people. The society not being sufficiently strong in numbers to conduct the affair themselves, it was made a branch of the Haverstraw Church, and services were held every other Sabbath under the Presbytery of New York.

In 1855 an independent organization was formed and soon after Rev. Abijah Green was called as pastor. For two years this congregation worshipped over the store of R. B. Marks. In 1857 the church building was rented from the Haverstraw organization and in 1861 it was purchased. In 1869 the building was enlarged to its present size and improved. The congregation now have in contemplation the erec-

tion of a new building, the old one having been for a number of years outgrown and much in need of repairs to properly fit it as a modern place of worship. For this purpose some \$9,000 has already been subscribed. The membership of the congregation is 113, of the Sunday school, including "home" department, 178, with 16 officers and teachers. The pastors who have ministered here since Rev. Green are in order: Revs. David Eagan, 1856-1858; Frederick King, 1858-1866; James J. MacMahon, 1866-1876; R. B. Mattiee, 1879-1880; Thomas C. Straus, 1881-1884; John S. Gilmer, 1885-1890; A. W. Hallock, 1890-1893, and the present incumbent, Rev. Louis O. Rotenbach, since 1894. The present ruling elders are Richard B. Marks, B. J. Allison, Abram Rose and Ezekiel O. Rose.

TOMKINS COVE METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH.

The organization by this name dates from about the year 1840. For some two years prior to this time preaching services had been held once a month conducted by the Rev. Robert Woodruff, a circuit preacher, in the house of a Mrs. Laseelles, but no permanent organization had been effected. In March, 1840, the New York Conference of the M. P. Church sent the Rev. T. K. Witsel to Tomkins Cove as pastor, and under his ministrations a great religious revival occurred resulting in the final and permanent organization as it has continued to the present. The congregation at first worshipped in a building owned by the lime company, but in 1854 Calvin Tomkins (Father Tomkins, as he is affectionately called in remembrance by the parishioners) built and presented a commodious church building to the society—the lot having been given the year before by the company. The organization has always maintained a strong existence and has made its influence felt for good throughout the township. Within a few years the church building has been thoroughly repaired and refurnished—cathedral glass placed in the windows and a very handsome and valuable pipe organ installed in the auditorium. The list of pastors is as follows, with the year of their installation: Revs. Woodruff, 1838; T. K. Witsel, 1840; E. W. Griswold, 1843; Samuel N. St. John, 1846; Joshua Penny, 1847; Joshua Burch, 1849; J. J. Smith, 1851; H. H. Harris, 1853; A. W. Nott, 1855; J. M. Ashley, 1857; J. J. Smith, 1859; W. H. Miller, 1863; Mark E. Rude, 1865; G. B. Wray and Thomas Wooster, 1867; C. Millard, 1868; J. J. Smith, 1869; A. M. Woodsworth, 1871; A. B. Purdy, 1873; J. C. Berrien, 1875; A. M.

Woodsworth, 1878; R. S. Hulsart, 1882; J. J. Smith, 1885; James Cody, 1890; S. G. Appleget, 1892, and S. K. Spahr, since 1896.

FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF STONY POINT.

Soon after the establishment of Methodism in the county and about the year 1804 circuit preachers began to minister to the people of Haverstraw and Stony Point. Among those who opened their houses for this purpose were Daniel Phillips and Mr. Wandell, who resided where now stands the house of Mr. B. J. Allison. The hearers, however, were connected in organization with the church at Haverstraw and it was not until the year 1834 that a church was erected for the members in the present town of Stony Point and a separate organization effected under the name of St. George's Methodist Episcopal Church of North Haverstraw. The first trustees were John J. Bulson, Abram Knapp and Wm. H. Rose. The first Sabbath school superintendent was Samuel Bird. The site was presented by Mr. and Mrs. Mathew Gurnee. The church building was repeatedly enlarged and altered and in the year 1882 was almost entirely rebuilt. In the year 1884-1885 the present M. E. Church in Stony Point Village was organized with a considerable number of former members of St. George's as a nucleus and the organization correspondingly weakened, but the mother church is at present more than holding her own. The present membership is one hundred and the Sunday school 125. In the year 1889 the legal name of the organization was changed to the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Stony Point. Among the itinerants and circuit preachers of the early days who assisted in planting Methodism in Stony Point may be mentioned Revs. James Sherwood, William Hibbard, Peter Vannest, Daniel Fidler, John Finley, Manning Force, Lawrence McCombs, Anthony Atwood. The long line of pastors includes Revs. L. M. Prettyman, Wm. Hanly, I. N. Fetch, Benjamin Reed, Matthew Mattison, Alex. Gilmore, Josiah F. Canfield, Mulford Day, L. R. Dunn, Joseph Ashbrook, George F. Brown, William M. Burrows, Fletcher Lummis, Garrett VanHorn, S. D. Longheed, M. C. Stokes, W. G. Wiggins, Walter Chamberlain, F. S. Wolf, Rodney Winans, Gilbert H. Winans, J. W. Seran, David Walters, J. W. Barrett, Richard Johns, Isaac W. Cole, A. S. Compton, H. J. Hayter, J. P. Fort, E. V. King, W. R. Keifer, Thomas H. Landon, N. W. Clark, C. Clark, Jr., Jacob A. Craig, Andrew Henry, S. K. Doolittle, G. F. Apgar and J. H. Piper, the present pastor, since 1900.



William

The congregation has been oftentimes united with Garnerville or Theills in the support of a pastor, but for a number of years past has been alone.

M. E. CHURCH OF STONY POINT.

For many years the only Methodist Episcopal Church at or near the present Stony Point Village was that located at "Antioch" or the hamlet about a mile west of the corners and known colloquially as the "Creek" Church. Its official name was St. George's M. E. Church of North Haverstraw. In the years 1884-1885 during the pastorate of Rev. W. R. Keifer at St. George's an organization was perfected among the Methodists in and about Stony Point Village and a separate existence granted by the Conference to the organization. In the spring of 1885 Mr. Keifer was sent as first pastor, dividing his time with Garnerville. Those who succeeded him were Rev. I. N. VanZandt, 1889-1892, Rev. S. D. Harris, 1892-1897, Rev. S. D. Jones, 1897-1900, and Rev. L. F. Bowman, the present pastor, since 1900. The congregation at first worshipped in a temporary structure called the Tabernacle, but during the pastorate of Rev. VanZandt completed the present handsome church edifice.

STONY POINT FIRE DISTRICT.

For some time prior to the year 1890 owing to increased consumption the Haverstraw Water Co., supplying water to the incorporated villages of Haverstraw and West Haverstraw, had felt the necessity of increasing their visible supply. To this end the Stony Point Water Co. was organized. This company purchased the old Beebe saw mill site and water privilege west of Stony Point Village and installed a plant to pump the water to the crest of the hill back of the "Creek" Church, where was located a reservoir. At about the same time a petition signed by a large body of taxpayers was presented to the Board of Supervisors requesting that body to organize under Chapter 482, Laws 1875, and several amendatory acts, the Stony Point Fire District and empowering the election of Fire Commissioners, who should have control over the district property and have authority to enter into a contract on behalf of the District for furnishing a supply of water for protection against fire. The petition was presented August 12, 1891, and on Sept. 14, 1891, the Board of Supervisors granted the petition and incorporated the Fire District. The

act of incorporation provided for the election of Fire Commissioners at an election called on the 3d Tuesday of October, 1891. At this election Brewster J. Allison, Richard B. Marks, Watson Tomkins, Ezekiel O. Rose and Alfred M. Wiles were elected Fire Commissioners and they have so conducted the affairs of the district as to secure their re-election every third year ever since. The Commissioners entered into a contract with the Stony Point Water Company July 2, 1892, to furnish water for fire purposes throughout the district for fifteen years at \$1,000 a year. Pipes were laid throughout the streets by the company and a supply of hose and a hose cart purchased by the Commissioners, with which Wayne Hose Company was equipped when organized.

In the year 1901 the Stony Point Water Company and the Haverstraw Water Company went through re-organization process and all the rights and franchises of the old companies turned over to a new company called the Haverstraw Water Supply Company. The old facilities were increased and the fire district is now the fortunate possessor of an abundant supply of pure water for protection against fire and for domestic purposes as well.

WAYNE HOSE COMPANY.

Following soon after the completion of the water works and the laying of the mains through the recently organized fire district of Stony Point, and on January 29, 1894, a meeting was held in Stony Point for the organization of a fire company. Twenty-two young men signified at that meeting their willingness to become active members. The company was organized in July following under the name of Wayne Hose Company, with the following officers: Foreman, Frank E. Wiles; Assistant Foreman, Walter G. Hamilton; Secretary Thomas M. Hastings; Treasurer, Frank C. Knapp. For some months a desultory existence was endured—the company having no quarters, no apparatus, no uniform—but finally quarters were secured in the barn of Louis Ossman and the apparatus purchased by the district stored there. The company has also since uniformed its members. In 1897 the company took possession of the new fire house erected on Main street, and furnished their social and meeting rooms in a very tasty and handsome manner. In 1899 through the liberality of the taxpayers of the fire district in voting the money, a handsome parade carriage was purchased for the company at a cost of \$1,000. The company is now well equipped.

DEDICATION OF STONY POINT BATTLEFIELD.

It has been said that there are three occasions in which Stony Point has become famous, viz: At the time of the assault of Gen. Wayne in 1779, on the hundredth anniversary of that famous victory, July 16th, 1879, and on the occasion of the formal dedication of the battlefield as a State park and reservation, July 16th, 1902. The celebration of the centennial in 1879 was in many respects and on many accounts an unsuccessful affair. In 1897 the Legislature of New York incorporated the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society and at the same session passed an act appropriating \$25,000 for the purchase of the Battlefield of Stony Point and providing for its being turned over to the Scenic Society as custodian for care and preservation. That portion of the battlefield lying east of the West Shore railroad was subsequently purchased in pursuance to the provisions of this act from Watson Tomkins and the estate of Fred Tomkins for the sum of \$21,500 and the balance of the appropriation—\$3,500—was subsequently appropriated to be expended under the direction of the Scenic Society in improvement of the site, etc. A dock was built and roads leading to the battlefield were laid out and constructed and on July 16, 1902, the "park," of some forty acres, consisting of the site of the various outposts, earthworks, redouts and military works of 1779, which had been previously located and marked by the corps of engineers from West Point M. A., was formally dedicated to the public. The day certainly will mark for future years an epoch in the history of Stony Point. The arrangements for the celebration were under the charge and direction of a committee of the Scenic Society and a local committee of Rockland county citizens and by just so much as the perfected plans for the celebration of 1902 differed in detail from those of 1879 will the reason for the successful outcome of the affair be manifest. The National Government and the State Government were represented and fully 18,000 people assembled to honor the efforts and achievements of 1779 and to approve the policy of the State in preserving in competent hands the historic places and scenes of the Revolutionary and Colonial struggles. The day was an ideal one. A procession consisting of troops and organizations rendezvoused at Stony Point Village and marched to the reservation, where they were reviewed by the Governor of the State, Benjamin B. Odell, Jr., and other prominent guests of the committees.

After the review of the parade the following literary program was carried out in a large tent erected about the center of the park:

Walter Seth Logan, Vice President of the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society, presiding, in the absence of the President, the Hon. Andrew H. Green. Music, "America," West Point Military Academy Band. Invocation, the Rev. Dr. Murray, representing the Chaplain of the Empire State Society, S. A. R.; Address of welcome, the Hon. Alonzo Wheeler, of Haverstraw, N. Y. Address in behalf of custodian society, Walter Seth Logan, Esq., of New York, Vice President American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society. Dedication of the reservation, the Hon. B. B. Odell, Jr., of Newburgh, Governor of the State of New York.

Simultaneously, following the declaration by the Governor of the opening of the reservation: Music, "The Star Spangled Banner," West Point Military Academy Band. Flag raising, William Wayne, Esq., of Paoli, Pa., lineal descendant of Gen. Anthony Wayne. Artillery salute, 21 guns, U. S. Light Artillery from West Point, Capt. Edmund M. Blake, commanding. Naval salute, 21 guns, U. S. S. Olympia, Capt. Henry W. Lyon, U. S. N., commanding.

Address of acknowledgement in behalf of the people, "Our Heritage," the Hon. Arthur S. Tompkins, of Nyack, N. Y., Member of Congress, 17th District of New York. Historical oration, the Hon. Samuel W. Pennypacker, of Philadelphia, Pa., President Pennsylvania Historical Society. Address, "The American Flag," the Hon. Thomas H. Lee, of Stony Point, District Attorney of Rockland county. Address, "Then and Now," the Hon. Clarence Lexow, of Nyack. Dedicatory prayer and benediction, the Rev. Charles Tyler Olmsted, D. D., of New York, Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese of Central New York.

The committee in charge of the dedication consisted of the following gentlemen:

For the Scenic Society, H. K. Bush Brown, Newburgh; Edward Hagaman Hall, New York; Gordon H. Peck, Haverstraw; Hon. Alonzo Wheeler, Haverstraw; Charles T. Wingate, New York.

For Rockland county, Chairman, Hon. Thomas H. Lee, of Stony Point; Secretary, Major Robert A. Widenmann, of Haverstraw; Treasurer, John D. Blauvelt, of Nyack; Walter Tompkins, Alexander Rose, Dr. N. B. Bayley, Michael McCabe, Dr. J. William Giles, John H. Burke, J. Bogert Suffern, P. Q. Eckerson, W. Parker Smith.

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCHES.

In the year 1866 the Rev. Ebenezer Gay, then rector of Trinity Protestant Episcopal Church at Haverstraw, established the "House of the Good Shepherd" there as a home and school for the orphan children of the parish. This institution was removed later to Garnerville, and in April, 1871, to Tomkins Cove, where a considerable tract of land was secured, overlooking Peekskill Bay, and buildings erected. Mr. Gay resigned charge of Trinity parish in 1869 and thereafter devoted himself to teaching in the House of the Good Shepherd and mission work. Although services were regularly held at Tomkins Cove after 1781, it was not until 1884 that a parish was organized. At that date Grace Church, Stony Point, was established, with Mr. Gay as rector. A small chapel was early erected, called the "Free Hill Church," and the foundations of a stone church were afterwards started on the House of the Good Shepherd grounds, but never completed. In 1883 a stone chapel called "The House of Prayer" was erected at Jones Point, in connection with this parish. The House of the Good Shepherd was maintained for upwards of twenty years, when the failing health of Mr. Gay compelled its close. The property has lately come into the possession of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, in New York city, and is now called the Cathedral Mission, where children of both sexes from the tenement districts are given an outing during the summer months.

M. E. CHURCHES AT JONES POINT AND MOUNTVILLE.

At Jones Point a small chapel, erected in 1883, and at Mountville, a building originally donated by John Beveridge in 1851, as a Presbyterian church, are used as places of worship by the Methodist Episcopal denomination. Services are conducted by circuit preachers, no pastor being settled at either. Each, however, has a flourishing Sunday school.

CIVIC LIST.

Supervisors—Wesley J. Weiant, 1865-1866; Daniel Tomkins, 1867; Frederick Tomkins, 1868-1869, 1880-1884; George W. Weiant, 1870-1875; Hiram Osborn, 1876-1877; William King, 1878-1879; William K. Hammond, 1885-1886; Richard B. Marks, 1887; M. F. Washburn, 1888; Fred W. Penny, 1892-1893; Alexander Rose, 1891-1894.

Town Clerks—Benson Briggs, 1865-1876; E. A. Thompson, 1876-1892; Peter Caffroy, 1893-1894; Matthew Hurd, 1895.

PART II.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

KIPP FAMILY. Wesley A. Kipp is one of the eleventh generation in lineal descent from Roeloff DeKype, who was of French origin, but who resided at Amsterdam, Holland, whither he had fled from France. He was a prominent soldier. One of his sons is said to have been a stockholder in the Dutch East India Company and an active promoter of the voyage of Hendrick Hudson to New York in 1609. His son Hendrick DeKype (3rd gen.), born at Amsterdam in 1578, came to America accompanied by his son Hendrick (4th gen.). They were the first of the name in the new world. Hendrick (3rd gen.) owing to ill health soon returned to Holland, but his son Hendrick (4th gen.), who seems to have been the first to drop the "De" from the name and who was usually known as "Hendrick Hendrickson Kype," married, and became one of the first prominent settlers on Manhattan Island. He married Ann DeSille and was chosen one of the nine selectmen; he also served as counsellor and Burgher. He afterwards removed to Amsel in Delaware, where he embarked extensively in the brewing business on the west bank of the Delaware river. The Governor of Delaware soon made him a member of the council and commissioner of Amsel. In 1694 he returned to New Amsterdam and purchased 200 acres of land from Capt. John Berry south of Hackensack. He died in New Amsterdam 1703, leaving children of the 5th gen., Cornelia, Catherine, Peter and Nicholas.

Nicholas (5th gen.), born at Amsel, Del., 1668, married Ann Breyant of old Bergen, purchased land adjoining his father's property; also bought a large portion of his father's property, was active in town and church affairs. His eleven children of the sixth generation were: Henry, Peter, Isaac, Cornelius, Jacob, Ann, Catherine, Elizabeth, Garret, Nicholas and John.

Nicholas (6th gen.) born at Moonachie in 1720, married in 1749 Lea Vreeland of Bergen. He was a farmer by occupation and wealthy. His children were: Sophia, Isaac, Catharine, Peter, John, Maria, Ann and Jemima.

Isaac (7th gen.) was born at Schraalenburgh May 14th, 1756, and died there March 10th, 1813. He was the most influential man in Schraalenburgh and owned large property interests. He espoused the cause of the Colonists. For this the British raided the Kipp farms and committed other acts of spoliation. He served against the British in local militia. He was a Major and later Colonel. His children of the 8th gen. were: Nicholas, David, Henry, Ann, Leah, Maria, Christina, Isaac and James.

David Kipp (8th gen.), born at Schraalenburgh January 24th, 1783. He married Elizabeth DeGraw of Old Tappan, and kept a general store at Bergenfields for many years. He died May 18th, 1864. His children were: Maria (married M. S. S. Bogert), William, and Fanny (married C. L. Blauvelt).

William Kipp (9th gen.), born at Schraalenburgh August 19th, 1812, married November 24th, 1831, Elizabeth Banta, and died 1871. Farmer and politician; was Democratic leader of Harrington township for a time. At his death he left living issue, Isaac, David, John B., Le-vina, James and William DeGraw.

David W. Kipp (10th gen.), born at Old Tappan Sept. 27, 1833, conducted grocery business, succeeded his grandfather; came to Sparkill in 1857, was associated for a time with Doremus until 1868; dissolved, conducted alone until death Feb. 18th, 1901. Left issue Lizzie (deceased), Louise and Wesley A.

WESLEY A. KIPP (11th gen.), born Sparkill, May 14th, 1868; educated New Brunswick Rutger's Grammar School, 1886, and New York city business college; spent two years in city. Then entered his father's store thoroughly learned all branches of the business and succeeded his father. Married Amelia B. Knapp of Tappan; has one child, Chas. Stradley Kipp, is identified with Masonic Brotherhood, etc., conducts an extensive and very successful business and is a progressive, up-to-date business man of excellent reputation.

CORNELIUS AURYANSEN was born at Piermont, Rockland county, July 26th, 1828. He received his education at this place, attending the public schools, until about eighteen years of age, when he began learning the trade of tinsmith. After working at his trade for a time in Piermont, he went to New York, where he finished his appren-

tieship. In 1848 he returned to Piermont, and worked for one year for David A. Mabie, bought out his tin business and formed a copartnership under the name of Ward & Auryansen. They did business together for five years and were very successful.

Mr. Auryansen was married in 1853 to Jane P. Savage. He sold his half of the business in 1854 to Levi Ward and went to Louisville, Ky., to put iron roofing on the Louisville & Nashville R. R. shops, and was there one year. In 1855 he entered the Erie R. R. shop at Piermont as tinsmith, where he remained two years, and in 1857 bought his former business from Levi Ward. In 1860 Mrs. Auryansen died, and that year he sold out the business to Demarest Brothers and in 1861 took a trip to Wisconsin. In 1862 Mr. Auryansen married Jane E. Allen. In 1863-4 he worked for the Erie R. R. In 1865 Ward and Auryansen formed partnership again and bought out the business of Demarest Brothers. In 1869 he sold his portion of the business to J. L. Maxwell and formed a partnership with C. Sherwood to manufacture brick at Tappan. This firm carried on the business four years but was unsuccessful, and in 1870 he bought J. L. Maxwell's portion of the tin business.

In 1871 Levi Ward sold his portion of his business to James DeClark; the firm name was then Auryansen & DeClark. In 1879 Mr. Auryansen bought the interest of James DeClark and from that time to the present he has been conducting the business successfully in his brick building erected on Main street in the year 1866. Of his four sons John W. Auryansen (of his first wife) is his chief assistant in the business.

George W. is first bookkeeper in the office of the American Loan and Trust Co., in Boston, Mass. Albert D. is first in transfer department of the same concern, and Frederick D. is Civil Engineer at present on the Long Island R. R. Extension. Mr. Auryansen voted the Democratic ticket until Lincoln's second term; he then voted Republican and has so voted ever since. He was a member of the Board of Education 25 years and President of the Board ten years, and is a member of the true Reformed Dutch Church.

HORATIO N. WOOD was born at Tarrytown, N. Y., March 23, 1839. He attended the public schools there, and when twenty-four years of age joined the Navy and was appointed Paymaster's Clerk to the flag-ship Hartford, commanded by Admiral Farragut. Mr. Wood served for

15 months and was with Farragut in the Battle of Mobile Bay, August 5, 1864. After the war he was employed for four years in the Navy Department at Washington, D. C., and has since made his home in Haverstraw. He served as Assistant Quartermaster-General upon the staff of General Hedges, Commander of the G. A. R. for New York State, which gave Mr. Wood the rank of Colonel in G. A. R. circles.

On October 3, 1867, Mr. Wood was married to May Olivia Clarke, of Washington, D. C., granddaughter of Sir Arthur and Lady Clarke of Dublin and grandniece of Sydney Lady Morgan of London, and they have a family of three children: F. Rollins, born August 19, 1868, who married Jennie McClelland of Denver, Col., and reside in New York city; Samuel G., who was born October 21, 1870, married Florence Edna Milburn of Haverstraw, and is a member of the New York Stock Exchange and connected with the firm of Allen, Wood & McGraw; and Lucy May, married to George M. Martin of Ottawa, Canada.

Mr. Wood is engaged in the manufacture of brick at Haverstraw in connection with Brewster J. Allison. He has also been a stockholder in the National Bank of Haverstraw since its organization in 1871, a Director since January, 1896, and was made Vice-President at the annual meeting in January, 1902. A short time after the death of General Hedges, who had been President since the organization, Mr. Wood was elected President.

H. N. Wood's ancestors were from Colchester, England. James Wood, his grandfather, came to this country in 1801 and established himself in business, first at Sing Sing, and later at George's Island and Haverstraw. He was the pioneer brick manufacturer of Haverstraw, and was prominently identified with local affairs. He was the father of twelve children.

Samuel Wood, his second son, married Malvina Smith, October 28, 1820. The children of this marriage who reached maturity were George S., Mary E., Caroline, Theodore, Henrietta A., Horatio Nelson, Ellen E. and Sophia L. Four died in infancy.

THE PIERSON FAMILY. Henry Pierson, from whom the Piersons of Ramapo descend, was with Edward Howell and John Cooper, a leader of the Company which in 1640 left Lynn, Mass., to lay the foundation of Southampton, Long Island, the first town settled by the English in the State of New York. He was a native of Yorkshire, England,

and came to Boston, America, in 1639. His brother Abraham, a graduate of Trinity College, Cambridge, Eng., and an ordained minister of the Episcopal Church, was ordained a Congregational minister at Boston in 1640. Governor Winthrop's Journal of April 4th, 1640, says: "Henry Pierson was a member of the church of Boston as of the combination of Lynn." In October of that year the Rev. Abraham Pierson was appointed by the Council at Boston to be pastor of the Southampton colony.

Henry Pierson died at Southampton, L. I., in 1680, at which time he was holding the office of Clerk of the County of Suffolk. His wife was Mary, daughter of John Cooper of Lynn. Of this union were born John, Joseph, Daniel, Harry, Benjamin, Theodore and Sarah.

Henry, his fourth child, was born at Southampton, L. I., in 1652. He married Sussanah Howell, the granddaughter of Edward Howell, and became one of the settlers of Bridgehampton, where he died in 1701. He succeeded his father as County Clerk, and was for many years a Member and Speaker of the Provincial Assembly. He was known as Col. Henry Pierson. He had children, John, David, Theophilus, Abraham, Josiah, Hannah, Sarah and Mary.

Josiah was born at Bridgehampton, L. I., in 1695, and died in 1782. He is said to have been married four times and had seventeen children. Of these children Capt. Josiah was born in 1726 and died at Newark, N. J., in 1783; married Julianna Gilbert of Newark, N. J. Benjamin, born in 1741 and died at Ballston, Saratoga county, N. Y., in 1796, married Sarah Gilbert of Newark. Benjamin had nine children: Josiah Gilbert, Jeremiah Halsey, Isaac, Lydia, Mary, Sarah, Caleb, John and Joseph. Of these children Josiah Gilbert born at Newark, N. J., September 29th, 1764; Jeremiah Halsey born at Newark September 13th, 1766, and Isaac born at Newark December 31st, 1770, are identified with Ramapo.

Benjamin Pierson moved with his family in 1772 to Richmond, Mass. He and his sons Josiah and Jeremiah became three of the sixty Massachusetts men who bought from the Indians 230,000 acres of land in central New York between the Owego and Chenango rivers, which was confirmed to them by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in 1786 and known as the "Boston purchase."

Josiah Gilbert Pierson, who made the first purchase of 119 acres of land in the Ramapo valley, was a man of large executive ability and

great mechanical genius. He came to New York city from Richmond, Mass., in 1790, and went into business on his own account. In 1793 he was manufacturing cut nails, and March the 23rd, 1794, the United States Government granted him a patent for "machinery for cutting nails." This was the first patent of the kind. Appleton's Dictionary of Mechanics says "the manufacture of cut nails is entirely an American invention. The second patent was granted to Jacob Perkins of Boston in 1795. Mr. Pierson operated his nail works in New York city and sold hoop and band iron, principally for oil casks for the New Bedford whale fisheries, but he had to send the iron which was imported from Russia to Wilmington, Del., to be rolled and slit. In 1795 he determined to have iron works of his own and sent for his brother Jeremiah to join him. In May they went together "to survey the stream of the Ramapo river" in "Sidman's Clove;" there they determined to locate the works and soon afterwards named the spot "Ramapough Works."

Jeremiah Pierson superintended the construction of the works and in June, 1796, moved with his family from New York city to Ramapo, where for sixty years he conducted them.

He was appointed by the Governor of the State of New York Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for Rockland county in 1807, and Presiding Justice of the Court in 1809. He was elected to Congress in 1821. In 1831 he represented Rockland county in a memorial to the Legislature for a charter for the Erie Railroad and was one of the Directors named in the charter granted in 1832. After a long life of usefulness and honor, he died at Ramapo December 12th, 1855, in the ninetyeth year of his age.

Josiah Gilbert Pierson did not live to see the completion of his iron works. He died in New York city December 17th, 1797. He never married, and left his interests in Ramapo and New York to his brothers, Jeremiah and Isaac, with whom he was associated under the name of J. G. Pierson & Bros. The nail works and rolling mill were very prosperous from the start and in the course of twenty-five years a village of seven hundred inhabitants had grown up about them. In 1822 Jeremiah and Isaac Pierson incorporated them under the name of the "Ramapo Manufacturing Company."

In 1826 Isaac Pierson, who had charge of the business in New York city, sold his interests to his brother Jeremiah, and a few years after moved to Canandaigua, N. Y., where he died in 1848.

Jeremiah Halsey Pierson was married at Richmond, Mass., in 1792 to Sarah Colt, daughter of Jabez Colt. Their children were Elizabeth, wife of Eleazer Lord, first President of the New York and Erie R. R.; Josiah Gilbert, Jeremiah Halsey, Theodore, Henry, Lewis and Benjamin.

Henry Lewis Pierson was born at Ramapo August 15th, 1807. (He took the name of Lewis from his twin brother, who died in infancy). In 1826 he assisted in a survey made by the State for a road through the southern tier of counties from the Hudson river to Lake Erie. In 1828 he entered the firm of J. G. Pierson & Bros., and took charge of the New York business. In 1831 he was in Charleston, S. C., and took part at the opening of the first section of the Charleston and Augusta Railroad. (There were then but fifteen miles of railroad in the United States, the road between Albany and Schenectady.) In 1840 he negotiated in England for 6,000 tons of rails, the first rails of the New York and Erie Railroad. He was then a Director of the road, and in 1841 its Vice President and at another time its Treasurer. In 1851 he filed at Washington a caveat for a patent for "improvement in cutting threads on wood screws." In his specifications he says: "During the operation of threading the position of the dies or points may be changed so as to form taper or pointed screws." This is what is called the gimlet pointed screw.

In 1865 Mr. Pierson again went to England and secured a loan of £800,000 sterling for the Erie Railroad.

After the death of his father he became the proprietor of all the Ramapo property and in 1869 he removed from New York city to the "Homestead" at Ramapo. He died December 28th, 1893. His children were Henry Lewis, Edward F., George B., Helen M., the wife of William G. Hamilton, Sarah E., J. Fred., Isaac C., who died in infancy, and Julia.

WILLIAM J. RANDOLPH. Within the past few years the subject of this sketch has become one of the most prominent figures in the official life of his native county. He is also prominent in its political life, drawing his supporters from the ranks of all parties represented in the county, and as a result he has never been defeated in election to any office for which he has been selected as a candidate by his friends. A record to be proud of and which many would like to boast of.

Mr. Randolph was born in Nyack in 1865. He attended the Nyack High School and on graduation he was taken into business by his father, receiving a practical training which has resulted in placing him in the front rank of the many bright business men of the county. The business of wholesale grocery, feed and provisions now carried on under the style of Randolph Brothers was established in 1850 by William Randolph, the father of our subject, and the foundation then laid has served for the building of one of the strongest business houses in the county.

Mr. Randolph is a prominent member of the various social and fraternal organizations of the county, including the Masons, Odd Fellows, Red Men, Royal Arcanum, etc., and is also an exempt member of Mazeppa Fire Engine Co. No. 2, of the Nyack Fire Department.

Mr. Randolph has served as Trustee of the Village of Nyack, Treasurer of the Nyack Board of Trade, Collector of Taxes for three years, and in 1899 was elected County Treasurer. Since his incumbency of the latter office he has shown himself to be peculiarly fitted for the office. He has succeeded in placing the credit of the county on a basis which makes its bonds gilt edged in the money markets of the country. Until the advent of Mr. Randolph the bonds of the county have been good security, but at a high rate of interest. Mr. Randolph established the rate on county bonds at .03 1-2 per cent.

Mr. Randolph with all the cares of social, official and political life is eminently domestic in his tastes, and with his wife, Norma, the daughter of Mr. Jacob Wilsie, of Nyack, and his children, William James, Jr., and Madeline, enjoys to the fullest his beautiful and exquisite home in Aldine Park.

Mr. Randolph is recognized as a model citizen, and a good, capable and efficient public servant.

THE FELTER FAMILY. William Felter, or Velta, as the name was sometimes written, was one of a company of Dutch or German settlers who purchased the southern part of Quaspack, or the Pond patent previous to 1750. He also had a farm not far from what is now known as Valley Cottage. John Felter, who was grandson of William Felter, was born in 1756, and died September 11th, 1836. He came to Haverstraw in the early part of the present century and had a house and store at the foot of Main street. He had a dock nearby and was the captain and owner of a market sloop. Captain Felter married Martha Cooper,

who was born November 19th, 1770, and died December 11th, 1843. Their son, Gilbert, was born January 12th, 1788, and died September 5th, 1820. He married Mary Ackerman, of Saddle River, N. J. She was born January 28th, 1791, and died May 25th, 1875. They had two sons, Garret, who moved away and whose descendants are now in New York city, and John W., who was born January 14th, 1808, and married Anna, daughter of Josiah Concklin. Like his father, he was a farmer and a prominent citizen. He was for several years Supervisor of Haverstraw and Sheriff of Rockland county from 1837 to 1840. He held many other offices. Mr. Felter was the father of nine children: John W., Josiah, Laura D., Franklin P., Anna E., George and Warren B. The father of this family died June 5th, 1864, at the age of 56 years, and his wife survived him until December, 1901.

HON. JOHN W. FELTER was born August 22, 1843. He is engaged in brick manufacturing and has always taken a keen interest in public affairs. He was for five years one of the Assessors of Haverstraw, and for three years Commissioner of Highways and was elected to the Assembly in 1883. The old homestead of the Felter family is the farm formerly owned by Isaac Sherwood, supposed to be lot No. 5 in the east division of Kakiat. To this they have added a large tract which once belonged to the Concklin family.

JOSIAH FELTER was born on the Felter farm near Haverstraw May 25th, 1845. After acquiring a good education, he devoted his time to the care of the farm, which to a large extent he managed until 1873, when he formed a co-partnership with Henry Christie, and embarked in the brick manufacturing business. This business he followed successfully for twenty years, ten years with Mr. Christie as a partner, and the last ten years alone. In 1893 he retired from business and has since devoted his time to the management of his private properties and in fulfilling the duties of the office of Supervisor of the Town of Haverstraw, which office he has held continuously for the past twenty-two years, and a goodly portion of that time he was chairman of the Board.

December 28th, 1881, he married Miss Anna Christie, daughter of John D. Christie, of Haverstraw, a former well known civil engineer of that place. They have two sons, Irving, born February 7th, 1884, and John W., born August 15th, 1891.

FRANK P. FELTER was born in Haverstraw September 10th, 1852. He attended the Haverstraw schools until about sixteen years of age, when he assisted in the management of the farm left by his father, situated about three miles west of Haverstraw. Here he resided until 1882, when he moved into the village, where he now lives, on Hudson avenue. His time is taken up with the management of his personal estate and in the care of the brickyard property owned jointly with his brother, George C. Felter. This valuable property, consisting of three brickyards that they have leased out, is situated on the river front and has an inexhaustible supply of the best brick-making clay.

Mr. Felter has served on the Board of Education of Haverstraw and is a member of Stony Point Lodge No. 313, F. and A. M. In 1881 he was united in marriage with Augusta Haring, of Ramapo. They have one son, Warren B., who lives at home and attends Dwight's private school in New York. He will soon take up the study of law.

GEORGE C. FELTER was born in Haverstraw August 9th, 1858. His first business experience was in the owning and handling of a tug-boat, which he purchased in 1879, and ran three years.

He then, with his brother, Frank P. Felter, purchased a valuable property on the banks of the river at Haverstraw and they have since leased this land to manufacturers of brick. It embraces three brickyards and produces brick of the best quality and substance, possessing the rich, red hue so much desired in building brick, and which makes it a ready seller in the New York markets.

Mr. Felter is a member of Stony Point Lodge No. 313, F and A. M., and for a number of years has been a member of the Board of Education of Haverstraw.

In 1881 he married Sarah C. Rutherford, daughter of Collingwood Rutherford, of Haverstraw. They have three children, the eldest, George C., Jr., is now studying law in the New York University. Rutherford S. and Helen L. are living at home.

THE GESNER FAMILY. The Gesners in Rockland county are descendants of Johan Hendrik Gessinger and his wife, Ann Elizabeth Smith, Palatine emigrants, who came from England in 1710, in one of the vessels in charge of Governor Hunter. They first landed on Governor's Island, and afterwards went to Yonkers, and after residing by

the Bronx for a time they moved to the upper part of New Jersey near Tappan. He had a son born there in 1724 named John Hendrick, who married Famiehe Brower in 1744. Through her the Gesners trace their descent from Anneke Jans. John H. Gesner and Famiehe Brower had seven sons and three daughters, and were probably all born on the farm, which lay partly in New Jersey and partly in New York. The following are the children and their wives: First, Elizabeth, married Jacob Concklin; second, Famiehe, who died unmarried; third, John Hendrik, married Annie Onderdonk; fourth, Jacob, married Anna Briggs; fifth, Isaac, married Johanna Levidger; sixth, Henry, married Sarah Pines; seventh, Abraham, married Elizabeth Stedman; eighth, Cornelius, married Catharine Concklin; ninth, Nicholas, married Grace Post; tenth, Famiehe, married Peter Wilsie. Of these ten children the Gesners in this county are descendants only of Nicholas and John Hendrik. The former settled or rather remained at Palisades and John H. settled at Lower Nyack. The other sons previous, or during the beginning of the Revolution, went elsewhere and settled. Jacob became a captain in the British army. Henry and Abraham were twins. They went to Canada and attained high positions in the King's service. Henry became a colonel. The Gesners in Nova Scotia and Canada are descendants of these two brothers, each of whom had large families. Colonel Henry Gesner had a son, Abraham, who became a noted scientist and writer. One of the descendants of Colonel Henry Gesner was Archibald Lampman, the celebrated Canadian poet whose early death was so much regretted.

The two brothers who remained in this country were most loyal and honorable citizens. Nicholas had four children: William Herbert, Nicholas, Sarah and Jacob. Jacob was a Baptist clergyman and William N. Gesner, the great shipbuilder of New Haven, Conn., is a son of William Herbert Gesner. Nicholas, the father, was a colonel of militia. He was only a boy when the Revolution broke out. John Henry Gesner, who settled at Lower Nyack, signed his name to the Orangetown Resolutions, but did not take an active part in the war. He had a small vessel in the early part of the Revolution and carried building stone from the river quarries to New York. The British seized his vessel to use as a ferry at New York, and he voluntarily went with it to get it back, fearing otherwise that he might lose it altogether. He soon afterward escaped with the boat, but was recaptured. There is no record of what became

of the boat, but he died at Nyack in 1833, aged 83 years and 8 months. His children were: John, who married Rachel Palmer; Ann, married Joshua Brush; Phoebe, married John Sneden; Henry, married Rachel Townsend; Sarah, married James Lent; Elizabeth, married Sylvester Hayford; David, married Elizabeth Curvine; Mary, married Elijah Appleby; Abraham, married Wilmina Onderdonk; Jane, married Evert G. Wendell. Of these children the descendants of Ann Brush are represented at the present time in Peter Brush, of Englewood, N. J.; Baltus Brush and C. W. Fullwood, of Nyack. Phoebe Sneden settled at Piermont and her best known descendant, a grandson, is Mr. Charles Lawrence, of Sparkill. Henry, the next in the above list, settled at Nyack, was a shipbuilder and built many vessels, including the first Nyack steamboat, the Orange. He was the first who built centre-boards in vessels. Prominent among his descendants are Rev. Oscar Gesner, of Linden, N. J.; Henry T. Gesner and son, John M. Gesner, cashier of the Nyack National Bank; Miss Sarah Christie, a former post-mistress of Nyack, and Henry Perry.

Elizabeth Hayford settled in Troy, N. Y. Among her large family was a son, Henry Hayford, a veteran steamboat pilot of the Hudson river. He guided the great steamboat Drew for over fifteen years, and the steamer Commodore for about the same length of time. The descendants of David Gesner remained in this vicinity. Among them are Miss Carrie Snediker, Garret Polhemus and John Pitt, of Upper Nyack. Mary Gesner, wife of Elijah Appleby, settled in Upper Nyack. Dr. Harvey C. Gilchrest and son, Dr. John Gilchrest, dental surgeons of Nyack, represent this family, which was not large. Abraham Gesner settled in South Nyack. Isaac O. Gesner, of Port Orange, Fla., and Robert H. Fenton, the historical writer of Nyack, represent this branch of the Gesners. The children of Jane Wendell settled in New York city and Westchester county. This family was small and is best represented by Harry Delaney, a grandson, and inventor of a car delivery mail bag apparatus.

REV. OSCAR GESNER was born in Nyack, Rockland county, N. Y., November 16th, 1840. He was prepared for college principally at the Irving Institute at Tarrytown, N. Y., and finished preparatory study in the grammar school at New Brunswick, N. J. He then graduated from Rutger's College, New Brunswick, in the class of 1862, and from

the Theological Seminary, New Brunswick, 1865. Mr. Gesner was then licensed to preach by the South Classis of Long Island May 22nd, 1865, and was ordained at Rocky Hill, N. J., by the Classis of Philadelphia, on the 9th day of November, 1865. He has had only two charges. First Reformed (Dutch) Church at Rocky Hill, N. J., for nearly six years and second, Reformed (Dutch) Church at Linden, N. J., where he is still living, though retired. Oscar Gesner married the youngest daughter of Joshua Brush, of Nyack, Caroline Elizabeth Brush. They have had three children, two sons and a daughter. The oldest son was or became Joshua Brush Gesner, M. D. He was a graduate of Princeton University, also a graduate of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York city. He is dead and left two daughters. The second son is the Rev. Herbert M. Gesner, a graduate of Princeton University, the New York Law School and of Auburn Theological Seminary. He is at the present time pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church of Saratoga Springs, New York, where he has been settled for about six years. Their one daughter died in infancy.

JOHN M. GESNER, cashier of the Nyack National Bank, received his education in the schools of his native village, Nyack. In 1878, upon the organization of the Nyack National Bank, he entered the institution as junior clerk. He was appointed bookkeeper the following year. This position he held until 1886, when he was elected cashier.

John M. Gesner was born in Nyack March 15th, 1859, and married, November 15th, 1879, Armenia, daughter of Captain John Lyon, of Nyack, and they have one son, John Millard, and one daughter, Sara L.

Mr. Gesner has been treasurer of the Village of Nyack for the past fourteen years and treasurer of the school board for twenty years. An able financier, a friend to all progressive movements in the county wherein his interests lie, a gentleman respected and highly esteemed by his fellow townspeople, Mr. Gesner is a representative member of one of the leading and oldest families in the county.

JOHN M. ERNST was born in New York city. He has been a resident of Nyack, N. Y., for over fifty years, and is head of the extensive house furnishing and hardware business of Ernst & Brother, at 140 Main street, Nyack. Mr. Ernst is of Holland descent. He was married to Miss Emeline Provost, and his family consists of one daughter, Estelle.

HENRY ERNST, the senior member of the firm of Ernst & Brother, is also a native of New York city, but like his brother has resided and been identified with local affairs in Nyack for over fifty years.

WILLIAM W. SNOW. The family from which William W. Snow is descended is of Welsh origin. The founder of this branch of the Snow family in America served under Cromwell, and on the restoration of the Stuart dynasty came to America and settled in Vermont, then known as part of the "Hampshire Grants." Joseph Snow, the grandfather of the subject of our sketch, served in the Revolution, and David Snow, the father, was Colonel of Militia during the War of 1812.

William W. Snow was born at Heath, Franklin county, Mass., July 17th, 1828. At fifteen years of age he took up the book binding trade, which he followed for about three years. He was then for some two years Assistant Civil Engineer employed in the survey for the Worcester & Nashua R. R., remaining until the preliminary survey was completed and the grades established. In 1848 he went to Woonsocket, R. I., and for the five succeeding years was employed in the foundry at that place. He then went to Indianapolis, Ind., as superintendent of the Indianapolis City Foundry, where he remained about three years. In 1856 he returned east and located at Newburgh, N. Y., where he with others established a factory for the manufacture of car wheels, under the name of Stanton, Snow & Co. For three years this business was successfully carried on, under the general management of Mr. Snow, and in 1859 he withdrew his interests and removed to Jersey City, where he was tendered the office of General Manager of the Union Car Wheel Works of that city, which he accepted and held six years.

In 1866 Mr. Snow came to Ramapo and with others organized the Ramapo Wheel and Foundry Company, of which he was made Superintendent and General Manager and finally President. In 1873 he built the village of Hillburn, N. Y., erecting there a residence for himself, where he still resides.

In 1881 Mr. Snow organized the Ramapo Iron Works at Hillburn and was President of the company for several years, when he resigned and was succeeded by his son, Fred W. In July, 1900, Mr. Snow began the erection of commodious buildings in Mahwah, N. J., and installed therein the Ramapo Foundry, of which company he was President until its consolidation with other interests.

In 1895 Mr. Snow was appointed by Governor Morton one of the New York State Commissioners to the Atlanta Exposition.

In 1859 Mr. Snow married Oliva A., daughter of Burrill Estes, of Woonsocket, R. I. They have three children: Fred W., Nora E. and Clara A., the wife of Elmer J. Snow, General Superintendent of the American Brake Shoe and Foundry Company. Mr. Snow is a member of the Presbyterian Church of Ramapo and Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Snow has many business interests and has held many important offices. He is a prominent member of the Masonic order, belonging to the Grand Body of Knights Templar, having served as Grand Commander of the State of New Jersey. Socially Mr. Snow is a member of several clubs in New York, Boston and Philadelphia.

THE BLAUVELT FAMILY. The familiar name Blauvelt, under its various forms of Blawvelt, Blaeuvelt, Blawfit, Bleuveltdt, Blaeuwveltdt, and many others besides the present accepted spelling, appears in the history of Rockland and Orange counties from the very beginning.

We find that Johannes Blawvelt was baptized in Tappan as early as 1664, when the third purchase of land was made, in 1686, including a tract now embracing Orangetown, there was a Blauvelt among the forty families that constituted the white colony of that date. In 1872 a census was taken and showed that the old undivided county of Orange, which included what is now Rockland, contained but 54 white men, 40 white women, 145 white children and 33 negro slaves. A number of Blauvelts figured among the whites. In the records of the old church at Tappan for 1728 is an entry showing that Lambert Ariansen and Margaret Blauvelt, his wife, and later Lambert Smith and the same wife stood god father and god mother to the then numerous ward children; also that one Johannes Blawfelt was connected with said church at that date.

At a town election in Orangetown in 1744, first Tuesday in April, Bartus and Daniel Blawfelt were elected Overseers of Highways; also that Daniel Blauvelt was Supervisor for Orangetown in 1728-9.

It is a matter of record that in 1741 Jacob A. Blauvelt, son of Abram Blauvelt, of Tappan, county of Orange, and Province of New York, bought of William Campbell a tract of 300 acres situated in the precinct of Haverstraw, one and a half miles from the present Court House at New City, for the sum of £100, or about \$500.

One of the oldest graves in District No. 6, Clarkstown, is that of Johanna Blauvelt, who died May 24th, 1794, aged seventy-nine years. When the courts of Rockland county were first formed, in 1798, John J. Blauvelt was associate judge. In 1751 Petrus, Maria, Abraham and Janntje Blauvelt, children of Abraham Blauvelt, were baptized in Clarkstown.

Cornelius A. Blauvelt, whose descendants afterward lived at Nanuet, was a soldier in the War of the Revolution; also several others of the same name of Blauvelt, and not without distinction. There was, for instance, Johannes D. Blauvelt, who was a Colonel in the Patriot army, and who made an earnest appeal for more men to protect the threatened country of Southern Orange (now Rockland) county. Prior to this honor in 1775, many Blauvelts, among them Garret, Thomas, Isaac and Abraham, of Orangetown, signed the General Allegiance to the cause of Liberty, and this adherence cost many their lives, for they "fought as they signed." Throughout all the subsequent history of Orange, and, later, of Rockland county, the name of Blauvelt is seen connecting the family with public office, the bench, the bar, educational movements, church work, all the learned professions and also in commercial activities.

A person examining the map of Rockland county will not fail to notice a singular irregularity in the line between Orangetown and Clarkstown, by which a tract of land south of Nanuet is included in the former town, though it would seem naturally to belong to the latter. This tract was the farm and homestead of a branch of the Blauvelt family, and in 1789 was owned by Johannes Joseph Blauvelt. The town line was made to run around his farm in order to gratify his wish to remain an inhabitant of Orangetown.

Joseph Blauvelt, the progenitor of the Blauvelt family, residing in and about Spring Valley, was born September 17th, 1740, on the farm in Orangetown, a part of the tract purchased by his father early in the eighteenth century. He married Johanna, daughter of Nicholas Demarest. Their children were: John, born May 8th, 1770; died November 30th, 1855. His descendants are now living in New Jersey.

Nicholas, born June 4th, 1772; died April 19th, 1856. He married Catharine Youry, and their children were: Joseph, Cornelia, wife of Peter Johnson; Hannah, wife of James Blauvelt; Martha, wife of

Abraham Serven; Cornelius, who married Maria Haring, and William.

Cornelius, born June 12th, 1775; died June 12th, 1858. He married Bridget, daughter of John Tallman. Their children were: Joseph, born November 8th, 1796; died in 1884. (He married Rebecca, daughter of Isaac Remsen, and their children were: Isaac R., Mary, wife of John DeBaun; Margaret, wife of Sylvester Westervelt; Aaron and Cornelius E.). John, born August 21st, 1801; died in 1876; married Margaret, daughter of Jacob DeClark and left one child, Lucretia. Cornelius, born August 20th, 1808; died in 1858; married Sarah, daughter of Aaron Demarest and had a daughter, Ellen, wife of David Cranstons. Abraham, born January 18th, 1812; married Susanna Slaughter, died in 1873, but left no children. Nicholas C., born July 22nd, 1814. Tunis, who was born March 19th, 1817, and moved to Wisconsin, where his family is now living.

Hon. Nicholas C. Blauvelt, a grandson of Joseph, was born near Spring Valley. Mr. Blauvelt married, first, Mary A., daughter of Abram J. Demarest; second, Maria, daughter of Peter Demarest; third, Lavinia, widow of Isaac Conklin. His children were: Ellen, wife of Miles Davenport, of Paterson, N. J.; Abram, who married Caroline, daughter of Jabez Wood; John, who married Caroline Ackerman; Mary A., wife of Alphens Sherwood; Serena, wife of Abram Sherwood, and Lizzie, wife of Outwater Hutton.

Joseph Blauvelt, the ancestor of this family, had brothers: Cornelius (who was an officer in the Revolution) and John. He had sisters: Maria, married Resolvent Van Houten; Margaret, wife of Tunis Tallman; Elizabeth, wife of Jacobus Van Orden; Catherine, wife of Harmanus Tallman, and VROUTIE, wife of Garret Oblenis.

JOHN D. BLAUVELT, Nyack, is the son of Hon. Nicholas C. Blauvelt and Mary Ann Demarest-Blauvelt. He thus can trace direct descent from both sides to well known Revolutionary ancestors. He was born in the village of Spring Valley in 1840 and received a liberal education preliminary in local schools and completed his studies in New York city. He in 1864 formed a partnership with his brother Abram D. Blauvelt in Spring Valley. This firm continued until 1883, when they dissolved, John D. taking the stock of drugs and Abram D. the general merchandise. In 1890 John D. Blauvelt moved his business to Nyack, where he now has one of the finest and most extensive drug estab-

lishments in the lower Hudson valley. At the outbreak of the war in 1861, John D. enlisted in Butterfield's Twelfth New York Volunteers, and is now a member of Waldron Post, G. A. R., No. 82. He has repeatedly been chosen delegate to State and Congressional Conventions. In 1901 he accepted the Democratic nomination for Congress and made a very remarkable run, considering that he spent no money and devoted no personal attention to canvass.

Mr. Blauvelt is a member of the Sons of the Revolution, of the Masonic brotherhood, of which he was secretary of the Chapter. He is President of the Nyack Board of Trade and of the Oakfield Cemetery, and for a time under Cleveland's administration was Postmaster of Spring Valley. He was married in 1864, and has one son, Arthur M. Blauvelt.

Nicholas C. Blauvelt, the father of John D. Blauvelt, was born in Rockland county, of which for many years he was a prominent man and influential citizen. A man of marked ability, he was by his townspeople chosen to represent them in the county Board of Supervisors, and in the Assembly. He gave educational matters his earnest attention and in the up building of the free schools he was especially interested. He was himself a man of fine education, having been a graduate of Rutgers College, class of '33. At different times he filled the office of County Superintendent of Schools and in every way possible advanced the grade of scholarship.

HIRAM KNAPP, Sloatsburg, was born at South Norwalk, Conn., November 11th, 1839. He is the son of Charles Knapp, a native of South Norwalk, Conn., who was born in 1816, and a grandson of Capt. John Knapp, born at Stamford, Conn., in 1788. The ancestor of the family in this county was Silas Knapp, born in London, England, in 1735, who came to America. He had a son, Nathan, born at Stamford, Conn. Nathan was the father of Captain John Knapp. When he was a child our subject's parents moved to New York city, where he received his education. His first business experience was in a wholesale men's furnishing establishment in New York. In 1861 he became clerk in the office of the United States department for drilling and organizing volunteers, with headquarters in White street, New York. He remained in this position about six months when he received the appointment as

assistant secretary to Adjutant-General Nichols of the War Department at Washington, and held this office until the close of the war in 1865. Mr. Knapp then returned to New York and with Lemuel Purdy built and equipped a shoddy mill, which they ran for a time, when Mr. Knapp purchased his partner's interest in the business and conducted it alone until 1867, when fire destroyed the entire plant. In 1872 Mr. Knapp located in Sloatsburg, where he again embarked in the shoddy mill business. A few years elapsed and he once more lost the entire plant by fire. He rebuilt and began again, but was revisited by fire in 1900, which entirely destroyed the establishment. Mr. Knapp evidently does not believe in succumbing to the inevitable, for he has rebuilt the plant, installed new machinery throughout, and is turning out shoddy every day.

Mr. Knapp is a member of the Board of Education of Sloatsburg. In 1866 he married Margaret A. Taylor, of Hyde Park, on Hudson. They have five children: Charles St. John, Laura Grace, Alice B., Bessie A. and Lewis H. Charles married Emma J., daughter of Thomas Allen, and lives in Sloatsburg. Grace is the wife of Otto Balzer, of New York.

THOMAS W. SUFFERN. Early in 1763 our subject's grandfather, John Suffern (incidents in whose life are noted in detail in Ramapo History), sailed from County Antrim, Ireland, to America. Upon his arrival at Philadelphia, together with his brother James, he was sold by the captain with whom they took passage to serve a Quaker family for one year. (This was a curious custom much in vogue during these early days, by which sea captains increased their gains.) The brothers, John and James Suffern, served the Quaker faithfully for the year and then engaged with him for another year on wages. They saved money and took up the peddling business. John peddled north from Philadelphia and James south. During the Revolution they became separated. John came to the Ramapo Valley in 1673. Thomas W. Suffern, his grandson, was born in the Suffern homestead at Hillburn, Rockland county, July 27th, 1824. His education was acquired in the public schools of Suffern. At the age of fourteen he left school and took up farm work for his brother James.

In 1840 he taught a district school in the Ramapo valley, just over the Jersey line, at a place called Godwinville, now known as Wortendyke, in Bergen county. He taught this school two seasons.

In 1844 he started in the ship timber business, buying standing timber and cutting on contract for various shipbuilders. He followed this business successfully for thirteen years and during that time furnished timber that entered into the construction of some of the largest ships and merchant vessels in the New York harbor. In 1857 he again took up the occupation of teaching; for a few years he taught in Bergen county, and from 1861 to 1863 taught in the public schools of Suffern. During the many years of his service as teacher he was never absent for a day, nor was he once late in attendance, an example of punctuality and strict attention to duty worthy of emulation. In 1863 he opened a private school at his home, on the hill, in Suffern. This school he conducted for many years.

In 1870 Mr. Suffern began taking summer boarders, and having a slightly place with commodious grounds, the accommodations were soon taxed to the utmost. In 1878 he gave up the boarding school and transformed the school building to accommodate his summer guests.

Mr. Suffern has been a member of the Board of Education of Rockland county. In 1882 he was elected School commissioner for Rockland county, which office he held for six years and was one of the most energetic and zealous commissioners ever elected to this office in the county. He had also served as Auditor for the town of Ramapo.

In 1844 he married Catherine I. Conklin, of Ramsey, N. J., who died August 5th, 1896. They have had three children, William, Ida and Katie, all of whom died while young.

GLUDE REQUA. It is probable that no family has been more honorably or longer identified with the history of New York State than that of which Mr. Requa is a member. The ancestry originated in France and was of Huguenot stock. After several generations had made their home in Paris, the family removed to Rochelle, but on account of religious persecution they were obliged to flee for their lives, and about 1690 they came to this country. They became loyal subjects of our government and were especially noted for patriotism and bravery during the War of the Revolution. Every Requa capable of bearing arms was a

soldier in the war, and this fact is attested by the monument in Sleepy Hollow Cemetery, Tarrytown, erected to the memory of Revolutionary heroes, which bears the names of eleven members of the family upon it. Among these soldiers was Capt. Glode Requa, for whom our subject was named.

The son of James H. and Margaret L. Requa, our subject was born at Tappan, Rockland county, July 9th, 1838. At the age of ten years he left his home and for three years he resided at Tarrytown. Here and at Tappan he acquired an ordinary education in the public schools. When fourteen he went into the service of what was then known as the New York and Erie Railroad, and three years later he was appointed locomotive engineer, a very responsible position for one so young, he being one of the youngest engineers in the country. While employed in that capacity he handled the first steam injector used on a locomotive in Amercia. In 1870 he retired from railroading and entered the lumber business, succeeding Levi Sherwood at Monsey, Rockland county, where he at present resides. Mr. Requa was formerly President of the Corning Lumber Company at Atlantic Highlands, in Monmouth county, N. J., and Corning, N. Y., is now Vice President of the Painted Post Lumber Company of Painted Post, N. Y., and also owns yards at Ramseys, N. Y., and at Monsey, N. Y. He is Vice-President of the First National Bank of Spring Valley, N. Y.

September 22nd, 1863, Mr. Requa married Sarah E. Sherwood, daughter of Levi Sherwood, of Monsey, and they have one daughter, Edith. A son, Edgar, died August 14th, 1901. Socially he stands high in the Masonic order, being one of the oldest members in Rockland county, both in lodge, chapter and commandery. He is a member of Wawayanda Lodge, No. 315, of Piermont, Rockland Chapter of Nyack, and Morton Commandery No. 104 of New York. He is also an honorary member of the Order of Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. He is a man of generous impulses, a friend of the laboring men, whom he assists to get homes for their families by giving them long credits. His public spirit is shown in his liberal support of all plans that will in any way advance the interests of the village of Monsey or the county itself. By strict attention to business and honorable dealings, he has gained an enviable reputation throughout the country, and is popular with his fellow citizens, who look upon him with respect. He stands among the

prominent men of the town of Ramapo, in the development and progress of which he has long been an active factor.

THE HOUSE FAMILY in Rockland county are descendants of Rev. William House, a pioneer Baptist minister, who was located in Orange county. He was a man of strong faith and of great force of character, and was a masterful figure in those early days. He passed through the many trials usual to pioneer preachers and was peacefully laid to rest, leaving three sons: Henry, Rheinhart and Bradner, the two former sons of his first wife. He was twice married. His first wife was an Oblenis, of Clarksville Corners. Henry House, the eldest son, carried on a grocery store in Nyack for a time. He afterwards removed to Paskak, near the old church, where he died at the age of eighty. He was twice married, first to Elizabeth Smith and after her death to Martha Serven (widow). He left a family of four children, William S., who died young; Peter S., who died of the cholera, and at the same time his young wife and babe also died of this epidemic. The two remaining sons, John and Garret Oblenis, became well and favorably known throughout the State. Garret Oblenis House was a captain for many years upon the Smith line of steamboats. His chief commands were the Isaac P. Smith and the Adelphi. Captain House is still living in Ulster county at the age of eighty-nine. He has been twice married, first to Anna Elizabeth Hasbrouck, of Saddle River. His second wife was Elizabeth DuBois and his children were: Wm. Saunders House, M. D., who died in January, 1900; Henry Hasbrouck House, M. D., and Mary DeWitt House. Dr. William Saunders House was twice married. His first wife was Martha Griffin, his second was Eleanor D. Robinson. He left a family of three children, two sons and one daughter: Garret O'Brien, Jr., DeWitt Hasbrouck and Elizabeth Burgess.

Henry Hasbrouck House, M. D., the second son, married Parmelia Ver Valen, a daughter of a well known banker and capitalist of Haverstraw, Richard Ver Valen. Dr. Henry Hasbrouck House died in April, 1896. He is survived by his wife and two sons: William Stetson, the present Postmaster and druggist of Rockland Lake, and Clarence Ver Valen, employed as cashier by a well known New York house.

Mary DeWitt, the third child of Captain House and the only daughter, married W. D. Smith, and died in April, 1890. She was the mother of one child, Florence, who died very young.

Mrs. O'Brien, first wife of Rev. William House, of Clarksville Corners, had two sons, Henry and Rheinhardt. Second wife had several sons, only one now living, Bradner, who is a Baptist minister.

ALLISON FAMILY. The ancestor of this family was John Allison, a native of Hempstead, Queens county, Long Island, and one of the company who purchased the North Moicty of the Kakiat patent in 1719, and founded the village of New Hempstead. He also later became the owner of the larger part of the DeHarte Patent, which now includes the villages of Haverstraw and Grassy Point. He died in 1754, leaving children: Joseph, John, Benjamin, William, Deborah, Elizabeth, Mary, Hannah and Richard.

Joseph was born August 4th, 1722, and died January 2nd, 1796. He married Elizabeth Benson March 10th, 1843. The children by this marriage were Matthew, who died young; Joseph, Peter, Cornelius, Hendrick, Matthew and Elizabeth.

Elizabeth, wife of Joseph Allison, died December 12th, 1767, and he then married Elsie Parcels May 4th, 1769. The children by the second marriage were Peter, Amos, Michael, Parcels, Richard, Elsie and Abraham Titus.

Peter Allison, son of Joseph, married Margaret, daughter of John Suffern and their children were: George S., John, Caroline, Antoinette, Peter and Joseph.

George S. Allison was an officer in the War of 1812, in the regiment of Colonel Washburn, and was stationed at Sandy Hook. At the close of the war he came to Haverstraw, married Hannah Brewster, was twice elected Member of Assembly, in 1828-'29, and for some years took an active interest in military affairs, first as Colonel and afterwards as Brigadier-General of Militia in Rockland county. He was also Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. Judge Allison's children are: Eugenia, Brewster Jonas, Mary Margaret, George (who died young), and Amanda, wife of Watson Tomkins.

Brewster Jonas Allison was born July 5th, 1821. He has been principally engaged in farming and brick manufacturing and owns extensive property interests in the town of Stony Point. He held the office of Town Superintendent of Schools from 1848-1853, and was a member of the Legislature in 1850, and served on the Committees on

Roads and Bridges and Towns and Cities. He is an Elder of the Presbyterian Church. He married Anna Elizabeth Housman November 19, 1856. Their children were: Cornelia H., wife of Daniel M. Coffin; George S., who married Sarah, daughter of Denton Fowler, and William Brewster, who died in infancy.

Mrs. Allison died April 22, 1862. Mr. Allison's second wife was Anna G. Andrus. Their children are: Brewster J., Jr., Samuel S. (died young), Amanda Tomkins, Sarah Andrus, Calvin Tomkins, Anna Mary, Hannah Brewster, Eugenia Knight, Ralph Denison, Edward Lane and Fanny Gertrude. Mr. Allison's second wife died August 2, 1889.

GEORGE S. ALLISON was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., and came to Stony Point with his parents when a child. He was educated in the public schools of Stony Point and at the Peckskill Military Academy, from which he graduated in 1877. Immediately upon leaving school he embarked in the brick-making business with Horatio N. Wood, and to-day the firm of Wood & Allison is one of the most successful in the Hudson Valley.

In 1882 Mr. Allison married Sarah Fowler, daughter of Denton Fowler, of Haverstraw. They have four children: George S., Jr., Horatio Wood, Catherine and Lucretia. His wife, Sarah Fowler Allison, died in March, 1896. In 1899 Mr. Allison married Adelaide F. Carson, a daughter of Alfred J. Carson, of Haverstraw, and they have one son, Brewster, Jr.

HENRY HAHN has been a leading merchant of the village of Haverstraw for nearly a third of a century, as well as one of its most active and enterprising citizens. There has hardly been a project for the promotion of the general good of Haverstraw during the last twenty-five years with which this gentleman has not been prominently connected. He has made money, not only in merchandizing, but in outside speculations, and has invested in real estate and in enterprises generally conducive to the commercial and industrial importance of the village. Mr. Hahn was one of the founders of the People's Bank, in 1887, and is still its Vice President, and active manager. He is also the owner of considerable valuable residence property in Haverstraw, and is one of the most substantial men financially in the village.

Henry Hahn was born at Tomkins Cove, six miles from Haverstraw, in 1848. His father, who was a German by nativity, came to Haverstraw in 1854, and engaged in the grocery business. The disastrous results to this locality of the Civil War, however, left his worldly store greatly depleted, and the subject of this sketch when about thirteen years of age, was obliged to abandon his studies and take a position in his father's store. He was thus employed until 1863, when he went to New York and worked for about one year in the old silversmith store of William Gale & Son. In the early part of 1865 he again returned to Haverstraw and worked for his father for about two years. In 1867 he started business on his own account and has continued in business ever since.

Mr. Hahn has been an active member of the Haverstraw Fire Department since 1865. He was also elected a Commissioner of Excise for four terms of three years each, until the office was abolished by act of the Legislature. Mr. Hahn has always been a consistent Democrat, and in local politics, like everything else in which he has consented to interest himself, he is a most effective worker. He was elected to membership of the Village Board in 1896.

CHARLES E. POST was born at Saddle River, N. J., July 12, 1849. His education was acquired in the public schools of the neighborhood. For a number of years after leaving school he assisted his father on the farm and in 1873 purchased a part of the Abram Tallman farm near Tallman's Station and devoted his time to farming until 1891, when he built and equipped a green house and began raising plants and shrubs for the New York market. He was the first to engage in the violet growing business in this section. His business has gradually increased and expanded until at present he has several commodious buildings heated by steam and in every way equipped for the care and propagation of flowering plants and shrubs.

In 1873 Mr. Post was united in marriage with Anna, daughter of John Tallman, of Tallmans. They have one child, C. Claude Post.

His father, Henry P. Post, was born at Saddle River, N. J., and was a son of Joseph Post, who settled at Saddle River, where he took up a tract of land and became one of the foremost business men of the place, as well as a prominent politician. He owned and operated a tannery, hotel, grocery, distillery and chair turning mill, besides managing his

large farm and filling the office of Justice of the Peace for a generation. On the Judge Post farm, now owned by Mr. Charles E. Post, stands the white oak tree at which the first man was whipped under sentence of law in Bergen county, N. J. The tree is still called the "Jack Tree."

Henry P. Post married Margaret Valentine, daughter of Henry Valentine, a Ramsey manufacturer. They had six children, Ann M., wife of H. H. Goetchius, of Walwick, N. J.; John H. Post, of Tallmans; Margaret L., wife of Floyd Gildersleeve, of Tallmans; Francis A., now living in Nanuet; Charles E., of Tallmans, and William T., of Saddle River.

HENRY BARDON was born in Bardonia, Rockland county, N. Y., January 22nd, 1856. His father, John Bardon, was a native of Bavaria, who settled here in 1849. From him this village derived its name. In 1875 the railroad from Nanuet to New City was built, and the Bardons erected a store here the following year. This business, which was established by John Bardon, who died September 1st, 1894, and his son, Henry Bardon, has been conducted for many years under the sole direction of Henry Bardon. It has done a most extensive business. Henry Bardon was appointed Postmaster in March, 1888, and has since held that office. He was married in 1879 to Louisa Van Nostrand, a daughter of Bennet Van Nostrand. Henry Bardon has always evinced a great interest in the welfare of Bardonia, where he has extensive property interests. Besides his general store, he owns and lives in a fine residence which he erected in 1895. He owns the cider mill and a half-dozen other places here. He is a member of the F. and A. M., and a charter member of Teutonia German Benevolent Association, of which he has served as treasurer for the past nineteen years. For the past twenty-two years Mr. Bardon has served as inspector of elections, and he is a whole-souled, generous, wide-awake business man, who has a host of friends in Rockland county.

FLORENT VERDIN, a son of Nicholas Verdin, was born at Alsace, October 13th, 1815. He came to America and first settled in Cincinnati, and afterward became a member of the firm of Verdin & Week, manufacturers of candles and oils. He remained there nine years, then moved to New York city in 1850 and formed a co-partnership with R. G. Mitchell in the same line at the corner of Fourth street and First

avenue. In 1863 he bought a farm of seventy acres at New City, in the town of Clarkstown; by subsequent purchases the farm was enlarged to 112 acres; in 1874 he sold his interests in New York and moved on the farm. He was interested in having the Nanuet and New City R. R. built; he furnished the means for its construction and equipment and was President and Director of the company until the transfer of the road to the New Jersey and New York R. R. Co. He also owns about 600 acres of land in Rockland county, a flour and feed mill at New City, and was engaged in the brick business at Haverstraw. Florent Verdin was one of the most enterprising and prominent men in the county. He now makes his home with his son, Mr. Joseph T. Verdin, of New City.

JOSEPH T. VERDIN, of New City, was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, December 8th, 1849. He attended the schools of New York city and also a boarding school at Tarrytown, N. Y. After leaving school Mr. Verdin took an active part in the management of his father's large estate and for the past twenty years has had entire control of it, his father being incapacitated through ill health and approaching old age. Mr. Verdin was united in marriage February 14th, 1874, to Miss Charlotte K., daughter of Thomas W. Rose, of Stony Point, N. Y. They have three children: Florent, born June 16, 1876 (who was married to Miss Carrie McKenzie and has one child, Florent Eugene, born in September, 1901); Eugene R., born July 4th, 1881, and Theo. F., born October 31st, 1885. Both Mr. and Mrs. Verdin are members of the New City Methodist Church, of which Mr. Verdin is both Trustee and Treasurer. In their beautiful home at New City, surrounded by everything that cultured taste and affluence can provide, Mr. and Mrs. Verdin reside respected and esteemed throughout the county and wherever known.

J. M. HASBROUCK, M. D. The Hasbrouck family is of French-Huguenot origin and descended from Abraham Hasbrouck, who was a native of Calais. His father moved to Germany with his two sons, Jean and Abraham, and a daughter. Here they lived for several years and in 1675 Abram Hasbrouck came to America with several of his acquaintances, landing in Boston in July, 1675. From Abram Hasbrouck through three generations Dr. J. M. Hasbrouck, of West Haverstraw, is a direct descendant. He was born October 22nd, 1862, educated in the public

schools, Rockland College and eventually graduated from Bellevue Medical College, N. Y., class of '84. Dr. Hasbrouck commenced the practice of his profession in Ulster county, but after six months located at his old home in West Haverstraw. He has become prominent in his profession and enjoys a large practice. He has been President of the village for the past six years, has served as Treasurer of Rockland county for one term, is Treasurer of the Rockland County Medical Society, a member of the N. Y. State Medical Association, and of all the leading social and benevolent societies, such as Masons, Odd Fellows and Foresters. His father and grandfather were both prominent physicians. His brother, Hon. G. D. B. Hasbrouck, is Republican State Committeeman for Ulster county, and in 1892 was appointed by Governor Odell a Judge of the Court of Claims; the term of his office is six years and the annual salary \$5,000. G. D. B. Hasbrouck was also Deputy Attorney-General under the term of Attorney-General Hancock.

GEORGE WILLIAM HILL, Mathematician, Clarkstown, was born in New York city March 3d, 1838. He acquired his primary education in the public schools and was afterward prepared for college. He then entered Rutgers, from which he was graduated in 1859. Mr. Hill was then for thirty years in the employ of the navy department as mathematician, and was located at Cambridge, Mass. In 1892 he retired to his country home in West Nyack, where he now (1902) lives, employing his leisure in solving intricate problems and writing for scientific purposes. Since 1859 Mr. Hill has been the author of more than eighty papers and works on astronomy, which are recognized as mathematical authorities. Among his latest papers issued we note those upon the "Normal Positions of Ceres," Ptolemy's Problem, Secular Perturbations of the Planets, On the use of the Sphero, Conic in Astronomy, etc., etc. Possessing a wealth of knowledge upon mathematical and astronomical matters, gained by extensive study, he has placed his precious researches so as to best benefit mankind. Mr. Hill possesses the largest private library in the county. It contains about 3,000 volumes and is of inestimable value. Deep in science and erudition, a delver into problems which treat of qualities and magnitudes beyond the knowledge of ordinary individuals, Mr. Hill occupies a position both interesting and impressive.

JOHN HENRY HILL, artist, Clarkstown, was born at the old home in West Nyack in 1839. He inherits a talent that with study and application has placed him in the front rank of the leading landscape artists of this country, and gained for him the highest eulogies from the great minds of the world. John Ruskin wrote him away back in August, 1881: "You have a very great art gift." How great this gift is one has only to view one of his etchings or paintings to realize.

The Hill family, of Clarkstown, is to-day represented by George William Hill, John Henry Hill and Miss Emma Hill. They all reside in West Nyack, upon property purchased by their grandfather, John Hill, early in 1837. John Hill came to this country from England in 1816 and settled first in Philadelphia, but shortly afterwards moved to New York city and purchased a summer home at West Nyack. He was a celebrated engraver and became widely known. John W. Hill, his son, who was father of the present family, was an artist of international reputation.

THE SHERWOOD FAMILY. The name of Sherwood occurs in old documents, rosters of patriot soldiers fighting for, and afterward, in later years, defending the liberties and unity of these United States, since the very earliest days of which we find any record.

Among those who, in defiance of Britain's power, on July 11th, 1775, signed the "Association" and "published the same before all spectators," calling them to witness that the signers would "never consent to taxation without being fully represented." The first was Isaac Sherwood, whose name heads the long list of names appended. Of those who in later years, during the Civil War, went from this county to defend their country from disruption, was Corporal William L. Sherwood, Ninety-fifth New York, formed October 15th, 1861, was later promoted to a Captaincy and served until 1865, July 16th. But we are more particularly interested in the family of Sherwoods whose remote progenitor was Jonathan Sherwood, of Williamstown, Mass., in 1757, and who was an active participant in the Revolutionary War, fighting bravely and with distinction with the Green Mountain Boys, under Stark, at Bennington and elsewhere (where the Hessians were huddled together and shot down like wild ducks), and whose brother was killed at the Battle of Oriskany. There were numerous other lateral branches of the Sher-

wood family, doubtless all having their origin in the common stock, but it must suffice for our purpose to follow this main branch that was early transplanted into the kindly soil of old Rockland.

Jonathan Sherwood's wife was Martha Bruce, and they had children: Lucy, Annis, Olive, James, Mary, Isaac, Marshall, Hulda, Melissa and Daniel Asbury. James married Martha, a daughter of John S. Gurnee, March 17th, 1811, by whom he had children: Harriet A., born March 19th, 1815, and who married George B. Blauvelt; John N., born July 23rd, 1817, who married Phoebe Bulson, of Stony Point, and is now dead.

Jonathan W., born July 26th, 1825; married Ahnira, daughter of Josiah Concklin, and died leaving no children, February 26th, 1865. Elias G., born September 11th, 1827; married Elizabeth, daughter of Josiah Concklin, by whom he has children: Martha Elma ("Martha" after her great-grandmother), wife of Alvah Cooper, of Hoboken, N. J., and who has one son, Rollin A., a lad of about fourteen; Ida S., wife of George Krouse, Passaic, N. J., who has a small daughter, Elizabeth Helen; Jonathan W., counsellor at law, who married Anna Tallman, by whom he has a young son, Harold T.; James E., who married Etta Snider, daughter of Jacob Snider, by whom he has three young boys, George J., J. LeRoy and James E., and resides in Suffern.

Going back now to the second generation of three boys and six girls, the children of Jonathan, of Williamsport, Mass., as above named, we find no trace of the marriage or subsequent career of Lucy, Annis, Olive Mary or Huldah, except that one of these married a man named Green and was the mother of a large family, some of whom are dead. This branch scarcely came in touch with the Rockland county Sherwoods, the descendants of James, the Greens, living somewhere in Michigan, whence they are occasionally heard from. Melissa, the youngest daughter of Jonathan, married in Massachusetts a man named Jordan, and their son Henry came to this county and married, living near Suffern up to the time of his death, and leaving one son, Brewster. Isaac Marshall settled in Chicago, where, through fortunate purchases of real estate, at the right time and in other transactions, he rose to wealth and distinction, his sons holding offices of trust in the municipality. He reared a large family of sons and daughters, Daniel Asbury, the youngest of Jonathan's children, being born almost a generation later than the eldest

ones, settled near St. Johns, N. Y., and had children: John Bruce ("Bruce" after his mother's maiden name), who lives at Amsterdam, N. Y., where he has greatly prospered from a worldly point of view, and has two girls, Blanche and Mabel. 2. Lucy, in connection with whose history there is a bit of romance. Living at her father's house at St. John's, N. Y., there came into her life Richard W. Blauvelt, of this county, son of her cousin Harriet (daughter of James), who as above stated, married George B. Blauvelt. Richard W. went to St. Johns, visiting and these two branches of the Sherwood family (after three and four generations respectively) united. Their home was near Viola, where Richard W. died in 1899, leaving a widow and two sons, Charles A. and James S. 3. Carrie, who married Schnyler Vetter, and made her home in Central New York, and has one daughter.

Harriet A., who married George P. Blauvelt, and whose second son, Richard W., married his mother's cousin; Lucy Sherwood, was left a widow thirty or forty years ago, and Harriet herself died about 1894. The Blauvelt home was near Richard Blauvelt's foundry and plow shops, where for many years, from 1830, all the plows used in this section were manufactured. There was also a saw and grist mill that antedated the foundry, having been erected long before the Revolution by Aaron Blauvelt, grandfather of Richard, who came from Tappan. After Richard's day the mills were run by his son Edward, who, it is said, was the first in all this section to use hard coal, much to the amazement of his neighbors, who "reckoned" he'd have to burn wood to keep the black stones hot enough to fuse the iron. Harriet A. Blauvelt had three sons and one daughter, as follows: 1. John Lewis, born January 23rd, 1839; married Lucinda Gurnee, lives at Monsey, and has one son, George A., counsellor-at-law, with offices at 229 Broadway, New York. There were two daughters also, who died in infancy. 2. Richard W., born February 27, 1844, and who married Lucy Sherwood, as already spoken of. 3. Hannah Rebecca, born May 2nd, 1841, and deceased for seven or eight years; married David D. Fox, of Suffern, and left two sons, David J., a civil engineer of great ability, now in the Klondyke, and George, who is still a youth. 4. James S., born January 20, 1848, who died at his mother's home in 1867, at the age of nineteen.

James Sherwood's second child, John N., who has been already noted, lived at Stony Point and had three children: 1. John N., Jr.,

who married Miss Goldsmith, lived at Haverstraw and was engaged in the clothing business up to his death, leaving two children: John, who lives in the family residence, and Lucille. 2. Edward B., a dentist in Ossining, and has one boy. 3. Adelia.

James Sherwood's son, Jonathan W., who married Almira Concklin, had by her one boy, Everett, who died when one year old, at the same time as his father, about thirty-five years ago. Following now the career of Rev. James Sherwood, we find him always a citizen of prominence, a faithful minister of the Gospel, full of good works. He continued on the Haverstraw circuit for one or two years after his marriage, then purchased the farm which is now the home of his son, Elias G., and passed the remainder of his life as a farmer, continuing, however, the relation of local preacher.

It was through his effort that "Wesley Chapel" was founded. This chapel came to be known as "Sherwood's Church" and the neighborhood long since was given the name of Sherwoodville. James Sherwood was a good man of business and prospered greatly. He directed a fulling mill on the east branch of Mahwah Brook, which ran through his demesne, and operated it for many years. About 1846 this was converted into a cotton mill, where batting was made up to 1880, and this business was carried on by his son, Elias G., the present occupant of the old homestead, until about 1880, when all that class of business went South. This mill, originally a grist mill, was erected in 1765 and was one of the first three built in Ramapo Township.

Rev. James Sherwood died April 26, 1866, aged about seventy-seven years, and his remains lie in the little cemetery of Wesley Chapel, which still stands as the most worthy monument to the memory of a good and useful man. The homestead comprises lot No. 9 of the Kakiat patent. There is also an extensive tract on the Morris Patent, adjoining Kakiat. The quaint old house of James's day has given way to a roomy and substantial residence of more modern character, erected in 1869. The old mill still stands as the sole landmark and reminder of a once flourishing but now departed industry.

JAMES E. SHERWOOD was born in the old Sherwood homestead, Sherwoodville, June 12th, 1869. His education was acquired in the Thirteenth street public school of New York city, the Friends' Seminary and Packard's Business College. After leaving school he devoted his

time to farming and dairying, and at the same time dealt in agricultural implements until 1895, when he opened a grain and feed establishment and carriage repository, which he conducted about four years in Suffern. The year following he removed his family to Suffern, where he has since resided.

Mr. Sherwood has served as Superintendent of the Poor of Rockland county and Trustee of the Village of Suffern. He is a member of Ramapo Lodge, No. 589, F. and A. M. of Suffern and of Volunteer Hose Co. No. 1. In 1890 he married Ella Snider, daughter of John Jacob Snider, of Monsey, N. Y. They have three children, George J., J. LeRoy and James E.

ROBERT J. DAVIDSON was born in the town of Blooming grove, Orange county, N. Y., June 18th, 1850. Living near Craigville, he attended the public school of that place until about fourteen years of age, when he took the position of clerk in the village store, where he remained three years, and then came to Ramapo in the same line of business. In 1872 he accepted a position with the Ramapo Wheel and Foundry Co., of Ramapo, N. Y., as shipping clerk. He held this position only a short time, when he was advanced to bookkeeper and later became correspondence clerk.

In 1881 the Ramapo Iron Works Company elected him to the office of Secretary. He, however, continued to fill his position with the Ramapo Wheel and Foundry Company until 1883, when he resigned that position and took an active part in the control and management of the Ramapo Iron Works, as Secretary of the company.

In 1876 he was united in marriage to Miss Catherine M. Schureman of Brooklyn, N. Y. They have had seven children: Eleanor S., Mary E., J. Edgar, Florence and Robert J., Jr.. One son, George F., was drowned in 1894, aged fourteen years. They also lost a daughter, Bertha, who died in 1890, at the age of eight.

George S. Davidson, the father of the subject of this sketch, was a native of Ireland, Down county. In 1844 he came to America and settled in New York city, where for four years he conducted a soap and candle establishment, removing in 1848 to Orange county. From 1848 until his death, in March, 1899, he resided in Orange county, following the pursuit of farming.

SAMUEL AYERS, of Nyack, is a native of England. His parents came to America when he was three years of age and settled in New York city. Here after receiving a common school education, he learned the trade of boat building. In 1876 he founded the business in New York and in 1892 took his son, James C. Ayers, into the business as partner. The business was moved in 1893 from Fifty-sixth street, South Brooklyn, to its present location in Upper Nyack. All sorts of river craft, such as steam, naphtha and electric yachts, launches, sail, row, yawl, lifeboats, pleasure and fishing boats are made by this firm, and building and repairing are their specialties. Many very celebrated boats have been turned out by Samuel Ayers & Son, such as the Arrow, for Charles R. Flint, of New York; Utopia, for John Jacob Astor; Elida, for E. Burgess Warren; Wolverine, for J. Lorillard, etc. Samuel Ayers has been a resident of Nyack since 1893. He is a member of the Royal Arcanum and of the Masonic fraternity and was a school trustee in Ramapo for three years. The junior member of the firm, James C. Ayers, is a native of Brooklyn. He is an Odd Fellow, a Knight of Pythias and belongs to the Tappan Zee Yacht Club, Nyack. Samuel Ayers has a family of five sons.

ROBERT W. McCREADY, Sloatsburg, was born at Belfast, in the north of Ireland, October 31st, 1862. His parents who are still living in Belfast, were both of Scotch parentage, his father James McCready, was born in 1839, and his mother, Mary McIlveen McCready, in 1844. His schooling was obtained in the Belfast public schools, after which he entered the Building Department of the Government School of Art, from which he received his examination certificate in 1882. He then entered the employ of Harland & Wolf, the worldwide famous ship builders of Belfast; he remained with them one year, receiving from them his certificate as joiner. In 1884 he came to America, locating at Fall River, Mass., where he was employed as carpenter one year. He then returned to Belfast for one year and in 1886 again landed in America, this time in New York. The following year he accepted a position with Meade & Taft as carpenter in Tuxedo, N. Y., and two years from that time he formed a copartnership with William M. Finch, a fellow workman, for the purpose of carrying on a general contracting and building business, and thus was formed the extensive establishment of Mc-

Cready & Finch of Tuxedo Park. They employ during the building season between 300 and 400 men, all skilled mechanics, and the business is constantly increasing. They have erected many beautiful cottages and residences in this Park and they are today recognized as the leading establishment of the kind in Tuxedo Park, the summer home of the New York elite. In 1889 he was united in marriage with Mary Finch, daughter of John Finch, of Sloatsburg, N. Y. They have two children: Olive and Robert Halsey. Mr. McCready is a thirty-second degree Mason, in both the New York and Scottish rites, and a member of the Mystic Shrine. He has in his possession a certificate, given his grandfather, John McIlveen, as Master in the Masonic Lodge of Ireland dated 1814. He is also a member of Ramapo Lodge of Red Men and the Rechabites of London, England, and until he joined the ranks of employers was a member of the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners of London. Mr. McCready while a business man of Tuxedo is a resident of Sloatsburg, Rockland county.

TERRENCE MAGUIRE, senior member of T. Maguire & Sons and Maguire & Lynch, brick manufacturers at Haverstraw, was born in County Cavan, Ireland, November 22nd, 1829. He grew to manhood in the land of his birth, but not feeling satisfied in establishing his permanent home there, he came to America when in his twentieth year, arriving in New York city May 22nd, 1848. Soon afterward he came to Haverstraw, where he had friends, and here he secured work in the yards of John W. Gillies and John Rategain, who were partners in the brick-making business. In remuneration for his services he received \$12 per month and his board. The firm manufactured about two million of brick, and employed about thirty men. At that time there were only fifteen yards in this section of the county, and the entire output was not more than forty million, while now in the same field four hundred million of brick are manufactured annually. The old Nye & Cossackie machines and others equally unsatisfactory were then used, but are now relegated to obscurity. Mr. Maguire was employed in various capacities for four years, when he was made second hand, a position next that of the foreman, and one of considerable responsibility. In 1859 he became foreman for Benjamin Cosgrove, whose yards occupied the present site of the yards of Ronan & Scott. Seven years were spent in that place, after which he became foreman for M. A. Archer, remaining with that

gentleman the principal part of eighteen years, or until 1875, with the exception of two years spent as foreman for C. Milburn on the yard now operated by Mrs. Malley. He then rented the Eckerson yards, which he operated for twenty years, or until the spring of 1895. In partnership with Charles Lynch, Mr. Maguire is opening brickyards on the estate of M. A. Archer, and with his sons, as T. Maguire & Sons, he is operating the Lilburn property, consisting of an old yard into which, however, he has put new material. During his long connection with the brick industry he has gained a comprehensive idea of the business, and is thoroughly informed regarding every detail of the work. It has been his policy to employ men personally, and oversee the shipping of his products on his barges and schooners. For about five years his annual output was six million, but a portion of the time, when he employed one hundred and twelve men the output was from twelve to thirteen million. His success is the result not of luck, but of a thorough knowledge of the business, honorable dealings with all, and untiring perseverance. Aside from the brick business he has been interested considerably in real estate and has improved a number of lots by erecting substantial dwelling houses. In February, 1848, Mr. Maguire, just before leaving Ireland, was united in marriage to Miss Mary Ann Carney, who, like himself, is a faithful member of the Catholic Church. They lost several children in early life, and of those who attained maturity we note the following: Peter J. who was interested in the brick business with his father and was superintendent of the yards, died unmarried in June, 1892, at the age of twenty-eight; Mary Ann remained with her parents until her death in the summer of 1894, at the age of thirty-five; Thomas is an energetic business man, a member of the firm of T. Maguire & Sons; and Ellen C. married David M. Butler, a brick manufacturer, and they and their five children, Stacia, Terrence, Adelaide, Catherine and Veronica, live with her father. Politically Mr. Maguire is a Democrat, loyal to that party under all circumstances. For twenty years he has served as a member of the School Board, of which for three terms he has been President, and not a little to his instrumentality is due the growth of the schools of this place. For three terms he has served as Trustee of the village. He has been interested in all matters affecting the prosperity of the place, and is a loyal American. Terrence Maguire has operated a brick yard with Charles Lynch on the Reid property for five years, under the firm name of Maguire & Lynch, but Mr. Lynch having died in September, 1901,

Terrance Maguire now operates the yard individually. T. Maguire is at present Treasurer of Union Free School No. 3 of Haverstraw.

TOMKINS FAMILY. Micah Tomkins, the ancestor of that branch of the Tomkins family which is now settled in Stony Point, came from Milford, Conn., May 21, 1666, and was one of the founders of the city of Newark, N. J. Later the family moved to Orange, N. J., where Enos Tomkins was born. Enos Tomkins married Sarah Condit, was the father of nine children, Elias, David, Ambrose, Daniel; Enos, Condit, Calvin, Sarah (wife of Jacob Stagg), Lydia (wife of Chas. Dean), and Eleanor (wife of John Fox). Calvin Tomkins was born January 31st, 1793. Until the age of 15 he remained with his father; he then went as a boatman running between Newark and New York; he eventually became the owner of the freighting business and also established a wood and coal yard. At that time the coal business was in its infancy and he supplied the principal part of the anthracite consumed in Newark. In 1834 Mr. Tomkins came to Stony Point and bought a small tract of land (or rather rock), near the present railroad station. He established lime kilns and shipped cargo after cargo of limestone to Newark; later he, with his brother Daniel, bought another available lime quarry in the vicinity. In 1850 he established cement works at Rondout, N. Y., which produced 1100 barrels a day. He later established the Albert Manufacturing Company in New Brunswick, controlling the finest gypsum deposits along the Atlantic seaboard. Mr. Tomkins came to Tomkins Cove to reside in 1858. In 1875 he erected at an expense of \$22,000 the present union school building, which was a noble work. Previous to this he built the Methodist Church at a cost of \$6,000, the church lot having been given by his brother Daniel Tomkins. In the War of 1812 Mr. Tomkins was a soldier in the company under Captain Joel Harrison in Colonel Frelinghuysen's regiment, which was stationed at Sandy Hook. Mr. Tomkins married in 1818, Esther, who died, and he was married a second time to Eliza Parish in 1850. His children are: Walter, Sarah (wife of James G. Lindsey), Phoebe (wife of James Hill), Jane (wife of Henry T. Lincoln), Laura (wife of George S. Wood), Joseph T. and Cornelius T. He died May 18th, 1890, in his ninety-eighth year.

WALTER TOMKINS, grandson of Calvin Tomkins, was born at Orange, N. J., July 8, 1861. He received a liberal education in the Or-

ange schools and at Cornell University. After leaving the University he entered the office of the Tomkins Cove Stone Co., was soon after elected Vice-President of the company and upon the death of Calvin Tomkins, May 18th, 1890, was elected President, which office he still continues to hold.

WALTER T. SEARING, of Tomkins Cove, was born in Tomkins Cove, N. Y., July 13, 1846. He attended the public schools and the Peekskill Military Academy, and then accepted a position with the Tomkins Cove Stone Company. He has ever since that time (1864) remained with this company, and has been its Secretary since 1870. Mr. Searing has been a member of Stony Point Lodge, No. 313, F. and A. M., of Haverstraw, for thirty-three years. His family consists of four children, three daughters and one son.

JAMES J. GRADY, Postmaster at Tomkins Cove, is a native of that village. His parents settled at Kingston, Ulster county, N. Y., about 1850, and later moved to Tomkins Cove. Upon leaving school he engaged with a local firm as clerk, and afterward learned the trade of a ship carpenter. December 23, 1893, Mr. Grady was appointed Postmaster by President Cleveland, and has since retained that office. Mr. Grady has been clerk of the Board of Education for twenty-two years. He has been choirmaster and organist of the Catholic churches at Tomkins Cove and Grassy Point for the past ten years, and is always ready to aid any undertaking to promote the public welfare. He is also conducting a stationary store and a general insurance agency. His insurance branch controls most of the business in the vicinity. In 1895 Mr. Grady founded the Tomkins Cove Free Circulating Library at his private expense, and continues it to the advantage and pleasure of the community. The library contains eight hundred volumes and is located in the postoffice.

LOUIS J. LEDIGER was born in New York city December 1st, 1854. He received his education in the Parochial school of St. Nicholas and De LaSalle Institute of New York. In 1864 he came to Blauvelt with his parents, and in 1867 entered the employ of his father as clerk. His father, George M. Lediger, was a native of Germany, came to New York in 1849 at the age of eighteen years, and engaged in the baking

business, which he conducted until 1864, when he sold out and came to Blauvelt with his brother-in-law, Mr. Edebohls, and established the grocery business now owned and conducted by his son Louis J. He died in 1869. His wife, Regina Bruell Lediger, died in 1901. Louis J. Lediger began his business life as clerk for his father and uncle in 1867 and served in that capacity until March 1st, 1886, when he purchased the business. In 1891 he was appointed Postmaster at Blauvelt under President Harrison, and has held that office continuously up to the present time. He has been a member of the Board of Health about three years. Mr. Lediger was also appointed a commissioner by the Court in 1896 to take testimony and appraise the value of the Nyack Water Works Company's plant.

ROBERT WOLFE was born September 12, 1851, at Falls Village, Conn. He attended the public schools of that place until thirteen years of age, when he took a position with the Ames Iron Works of Falls Village. He was with this concern six years and for a part of that time was working on wrought iron cannon. He assisted in making the first cannon of that description used in the battles of the Rebellion. Later he was employed in the construction department of the works, where he remained some four years, working under his father, who had charge of that branch of the works at that time. In the fall of 1872 Mr. Wolfe came to the village of Hillburn, which at that time could boast of but one house. In 1874 he accepted a position with the Ramapo Wheel & Foundry Co., as superintendent of the building of cars, which position he occupied seven years. In 1881 the Ramapo Iron Works Company was organized and he was offered the position of superintendent of construction, which he still holds. Mr. Wolfe has supervised the erection and construction of the entire plant of the Ramapo Iron Works, which are alone responsible for the existence of Hillburn as a village. He is also foreman of the car shop. Mr. Wolfe is President of the village of Hillburn, having been elected on the Republican ticket in the spring of 1901 and re-elected in 1902. He is Chairman of the Republican County committee, and has served as member of the Congressional committee. In 1873 Mr. Wolfe was united in marriage to Margaret Carlough of Paterson, N. J., who died June 30th, 1901. He has one son, Robert Milton Wolfe, a graduate of the Baltimore Medical College, who has recently begun the practice of his profession at South Norwalk, Conn; and one

daughter, Georgianna. William Wolfe, Robert's father, was born at Claverick, Columbia county, as was also his mother, Margaret (Hall) Wolfe. They moved to Falls Village in early life, where they lived at the time of their death. The father died in 1884, at the age of 79 years; the mother in 1891, aged 89 years.

EDWIN LYDECKER, of the firm of Lydecker Bros., of Nyack, N. Y., is a native of Rockland county, born at Clarkstown, September 3, 1842. His first schooling was obtained in the public schools of that place, following which he attended Rutherford's Academy and took private lessons in Bergen county, N. J. After leaving school he was employed by his father in his Clarksville store until 1861, when he became a partner in the business, which they conducted until 1868. He then engaged in the manufacture of shoes and two years from that time retired from that line and accepted a position in the New York Custom House, which he held eighteen years. Mr. Lydecker then moved to Orangeburgh, and the following two years was engaged in farming. In 1891, with his brother Cornelius H. Lydecker he purchased the grocery business of Lydecker & Wool at Nyack, N. Y., which they have since very successfully conducted under the firm name of Lydecker Bros. In 1872 Mr. Lydecker married Margaret A. Blauvelt, daughter of Gilbert D. Blauvelt, of Orangeburgh, N. Y. They have one son, Wallace B., who is a graduate of Princeton University, class of 1901, and is now taking up the study of law in the New York Law School. Mr. Lydecker is a member of the Board of Supervisors, representing the town of Orangetown. His father, James I. Lydecker, was a native of Rockland county, as were all his ancestors for generations. The original stock being one of the early settlers in the county, came in the early part of the seventeenth century from Holland and located in the section of Orange county which has since been set aside as Rockland county. Mr. Lydecker was a member of the Board of Trustees of District No. 7 of the town of Orangetown, and has always taken an interest in educational matters. He has long been identified with the Reformed Church of Tappan, and has been treasurer and a member of the consistory.

RUTLEGE I. ODELL, of Tomkins Cove, was born in Tarrytown, N. Y., July 30, 1860. He attended the public schools of Tarrytown and the Irving Institute, after which he entered the employ of the Tomkins

Cove Stone Company as clerk. In three or four years he was made outside manager, and was elected Vice-President of the company in 1890. Mr. Odell married Miss Anna Sterling Tomkins, a daughter of Walter Tomkins, and their family consists of two children, Walter Tomkins Odell and Margaret Irving Odell.

JOHN OLDFIELD, Assistant Superintendent of the Print Works at Garnerville, is a native of East Fishkill, Dutchess county, N. Y. He received a public school education and early in life entered the print works at Wappingers Falls to learn the dyeing branch of the business and in time became one of the most successful dyers engaged in that line of business. In 1873 he was appointed boss dyer at the Garnerville print works and in 1900 Assistant Superintendent. During his residence in this vicinity Mr. Oldfield has filled many public positions of trust and responsibility, chief among which are those of Trustee of the village for the past eighteen years, and President of the Board of Education for District No. 3. He was married to Miss Ellen Cushman, and their family consists of three children: Bertha, Harriet and John, Jr.

REUBEN GRANT RIGGS—Born November 21, 1864, at Viola, N. Y., came with his parents when a child to Suffern. He attended the Suffern schools, the Mountain Institute and later entered Packard's Business College of New York, from which he graduated in 1885. After leaving Packard's College he was engaged at clerical work in the New York office of the Erie R. R., which position he held for some six years. In 1891 he returned to Suffern and went in as partner with his father in the Eureka Hotel, remaining as such until the death of his father, November 26th, 1897, at which time he became sole proprietor. He has always been a Republican and served three years on the Republican County Committee. Mr. Riggs was one of the first auditors of the town of Ramapo. He has served as chairman of the Board of Water Commissioners of Suffern and is now President of the village, being the first Republican President elected since its incorporation. He is also a member of the Board of Education. He was Vice-President of the Building and Loan Association, President of the Suffern Volunteer Hose Co. No. 1, and Past Master of Ramapo Lodge, No. 589, F. and A. M. He is also a member of Eureka Chapter, No. 287, R. A. M., and the Hudson River

Commandery, No. 35, of Newburgh; a Director in Rockland Electric Co., and in Mountain Spring Water Co. He is a member of Mecca Temple Mystic Shrine and is also a member of the American Mechanics and the Ramapo tribe of Red Men, of which he is Past Sachem. October 26, 1893, he married Miss Mary Irene Kerr, daughter of Hon. John Kerr, of Harrison, N. J.; they have one child, Mary Francis. Reuben Riggs, the father of the subject of this sketch, enlisted as a private in the Civil War, was promoted to Lieutenant and afterwards attained to the rank of Major. Before the war he was located at Viola, N. Y., coming from New York in 1852, where for years he conducted a wholesale tobacco business, afterwards removing to Suffern and engaging in the hotel business. His grandfather, Henry Riggs, was in active service in the war of 1812, and also in the Mexican War, and his great-grandfather participated in the struggle for liberty of the Revolutionary period. Mr. Riggs' mother's name was Matilda Jones, a daughter of Jacob Jones, a prominent farmer of Viola, N. Y., and a great-granddaughter of Col. Gilbert Cooper of Revolutionary fame.

WILLIAM HUTTON, JR., was born in Clarkstown November 23, 1848. He attended the public schools and was afterward engaged with his father in the commission business in New York until 1866, when he entered the employ of his uncle as clerk in the general store at Nanuet. He remained with his uncle in this capacity for four years and then purchased the business, which he has since very successfully conducted. Mr. Hutton was appointed Postmaster of Nanuet in 1897, but has been identified with the office since '66. He was married in 1869 to Miss Mary Tremple and their family consists of four children, two sons and two daughters: Chester, Milbourne, Edith and Laura. Mr. Hutton is one of the representative business men of Rockland county.

JOSHUA F. HAZARD, Nyack, was born in Bergen county, N. J., January 29th, 1832. When a child his parents removed to Rockland Lake, and after leaving the Rockland Lake school he took a position as clerk in a store at that place, which he filled until eighteen years of age, when he started in the grocery business for himself. He conducted this store until 1863, when he came to Nyack and engaged in the meat business, which he conducted until 1880, when he sold out and established his present coal business. In 1853 Mr. Hazard married Caroline Chris-

tie, daughter of John Christie, a contractor in New York. They have one son, Nelson M., who is interested with his father in the coal business, and an adopted daughter, Grace, now the wife of Dr. H. W. Boyd, the leading veterinary surgeon in Rockland county. Mrs. Hazard died March 20th, 1890. Nelson M. Hazard was married in the spring of 1902 to Sophia Williamson, daughter of Jeremiah Williamson of Nanuet, N. Y. John L. Hazard, the father of Joshua F., was born at Hudson, N. Y., in 1797. His was a very active life. As a Government contractor he was engaged in many large undertakings, one of which was the building of the Locks at Lockport, which stand today and will probably stand for ages, as a monument to his skill and ingenuity. He was an own cousin to Commodore Perry, of Lake Erie fame, and Col. Ethan Allen. While too young to enlist in the War of 1812 he still took an active part in numerous engagements. During the latter years of his life he lived in retirement at Rockland Lake, where he died in 1883, his wife following him in 1884.

BENJAMIN MOFFATT, JR., born in England, April 29th, 1867; has been employed by the Sterling Iron and Railway Company about seventeen years; in 1893 was made the Treasurer of the company and since 1896 has been Treasurer and Superintendent. Benjamin Moffatt, Sr., father of the above, is Mining Superintendent and Overseer of Real Estate for the Sterling Iron and Railway Co. The Sterling Iron & Railway Company is probably the only company in existence that has been in operation continuously without a break for over a century. One of their mines was opened 152 years ago and is still producing ore in paying quantities. The ore from these mines before the Revolution was shipped to England, where it was used for tinning, and during the Revolutionary period their mines supplied the ore for making cannon and other war implements. The old "Constitution's" anchor was made from this ore, as was also the chain that was used for retarding the progress of the British fleet while moving up the Hudson.

ALFRED V. H. CLARK, Supervisor of Clarkstown, was born in Clarkstown November 1st, 1847, on the old farm which has descended to him from his father, Peter H. Clark, who also received it from his father, Moses Clark. Supervisor Clark when a boy attended the local schools, assisted his father on the farm and early in life took a deep and

intelligent interest in all matters pertaining to the welfare of Clarkstown and Rockland county. When only twenty years of age he was elected Commissioner of Highways and held the position nine years. Then in '87 and '88 he served as Collector and after an interval of three years again served as Collector, '92 to '97. In 1899 he was elected Supervisor of Clarkstown, has been re-elected and now holds office until 1903. Mr. Clark's father also served Clarkstown as Commissioner of Highways. Supervisor Clark takes a leading position upon the Board of Supervisors upon all public questions and his clear and practical handling of town matters has gained for him the highest commendation and has been to the eminent satisfaction of his constituents.

JOHN N. WESEL, Nyack, is a native of Germany. He came to this country in 1873, when seventeen years of age, after he had taken a very high position as a skilled decorator, among those who had learned and knew what decorating means in the old country. He worked at the trade for a time, and in 1888 established himself in business in Nyack, N. Y., of which town he has been a resident for the past twenty years. Mr. Wesel owns the building in which he conducts business, and has become one of the leading citizens of the town. He is a member of the Board of Trade, Fire Department, Odd Fellows, German Order D. O. H., and Knights of Pythias. His business consists of contracting for fine decorating and painting, and he has done much notable work in both this vicinity and New York city. His family consists of wife and six children, one boy and five girls.

DR. HARVEY C. GILCHREST, D. D. S., is a native of Upper Nyack. After receiving a public school education he entered the Pennsylvania Dental College at Philadelphia, graduating therefrom in 1871. Following his college course and for two years thereafter he worked in the office with his preceptor in Nyack, and in 1873 opened the suite of offices which he now occupies. In 1872 he was united in marriage to Miss Evaline Tallman, of Nyack. Dr. Gilchrest is Police Justice of Upper Nyack and has served on different occasions as both school and village Trustee. He is a member of the Second District Dental Society. Dr. Gilchrest enjoys the patronage of a good share of the better class of Nyack citizens. He makes modern dentistry a study, and has the latest

appliances in his operating and work rooms. He has as a partner and able assistant his son, Dr. John T. Gilchrest.

STEPHEN H. BURR was born in Nyack, Rockland county, January 17th, 1840. He received his early education in the Nyack public schools and afterward entered the Brooklyn High School. At the age of eighteen he took the position of foreman in Edward Burr's (his uncle) shoe factory in Nyack, occupying this position two years. In 1862 he came to Spring Valley and with Andrew Smith established the business they are now conducting, that of general merchandise, also lumber, coal and building material. Mr. Burr was Postmaster for Spring Valley under Abraham Lincoln's administration, was deposed under Grant's, and afterward appointed to the same office under Garfield. He is a Trustee and Steward of the Spring Valley Methodist Church and for the past ten years has been Treasurer of the School Board. In November, 1862, he married Mary E. Cooper, daughter of Tunis Cooper of West Nyack. They have two children: Alice, wife of C. L. Sniffen of Spring Valley, and William, unmarried, living at home. William is a graduate of Amherst College, and is at present draftsman and engineer of the Hillburn Foundry Company. Daniel Burr, the father of Stephen, is a direct descendant of Aaron Burr. He established the first shoe factory in Nyack about the year 1830, conducting the same until 1857. His first wife, Mary Dezendorf, was a daughter of Bernard Dezendorf of Clarkstown; she died in 1842. They had four children: Mary Melvina, wife of William Van Wagnen; Sarah E., wife of P. S. Jacobs of Brooklyn, N. Y.; Abbie J., wife of Andrew Smith, and Stephen H. He took for his second wife Sophrona Dezendorf, a sister of his former wife. Four children came from this union: Melissa, wife of James Vanderbilt of Nyack; Nathaniel, died in infancy; Emma, married Mr. Dunnett of England and died in that country; Bertha, wife of a Mr. Jones, of Brooklyn, N. Y. Daniel Burr died in 1881.

BOGERT FAMILY. By its male line dates back to its Holland born ancestor, who emigrated to the New Netherlands prior to 1661. His name was Cornelis Janse Bogert (or Bomgaert, or Bougart, as it appears on the records of the Flatbush Church of which he was a member, and other records). In 1661 he sold to Peter Jansen, shoemaker, a house and village plot in Flatbush, as per Liber B, p. 47, Flatbush rec-

ords. His name appears on Gov. Nicoll's patent of Flatbush. Oct. 11th, 1667, a general patent was issued by Gov. Nicoll in which the patentees were the Rev. Johannis Megapolinis, Cornelius Van Ruyme, Justice of the Peace; Adrian Higeman, Jan Snediker, Jan Stryker, Frans Barents, Jacob Stryker and Cornelis Janse Bougaert as patentees for and on behalf of themselves and associates, the freeholders and inhabitants of the said towns, their heirs, successors and assigns for the premises described therein as follows: "All yt tract wh ye severall parcell of land wh already have or hereafter shall be purchased or procured for and on behalf of ye said town, whether from ye native Indian proprietors or others wt in the bounds and limits hereafter set forth and expresst. That is to say, to ye south by ye hills, and to ye north by ye fence lately sett between them and the town of Amsford alias Flatlands, beginning a certain tree standing upon ye Little Flats, marked by ye order and determination of several arbitrators appointed by me to view and issue ye difference between the two towns concerning the same, which accordingly they did upon the 17th of Oct., 1666, and to ye east and west by the common woodlands, including two tracts heretofor called by ye name of Curler's and Twiller's flatts who lie to ye east of ye town. As also a parcel of meadow ground or valley on ye east north east side of Canar-esse planting land, and having to ye south ye meadow ground belonging to Amsfort alias Flatbush, according to ye division made by an East line and running half a point northerly between them without variation of ye Compass, and so to go to ye mouth of ye creek or kill, which said meadows were on ye 20th of April last by common consent staked out and by my approbation allowed." The descendants of Cornelius Janse spell their surname Bogert, and reside principally in Bergen and Hudson counties of New Jersey and in Rockland and New York counties of New York. With this introduction the genealogical history may be continued as follows, the capital letters indicating the direct line:

1. CORNELIUS JANSE BOGERT—Born in Holland and died in America prior to 1684. He married Seesje (or Gessie) Williamse and had issue as follows: (a) Jessie Weinje Cornelise, married, Dec., 1675, Gerrit Stryker, of Flatbush. (b) JAN CORNELIS BOGERT, of Hackensack. (c) Klaasje Cornelis, m, Hendrick Jerise Brinkerhoff. (d) Roelof Cornelise, of Hackensack, 1694, married, 1695, Gertroug Brynant. (e) Marritje Cornelise married, March, 1693, Jacob Stegge. (f) Pieter

Cornelise, of Hackensack, m. Hendrickje Arents. II. JAN CORNELIS BOGERT, eldest son, conveyed, 10th of November, 1694, to Rem Remson thirty acres in new lots, L. I. He removed to Hackensack, N. J., and was a member of the Reformed Dutch Church there August, 1687. He married Angenietje, widow of Claus Tyson, and a daughter of Jan Stryker, of Flatbush, and had issue: 1. Roelof Janse, of Flatbush, in 1693. 2. Lammetje, baptized October 14th, 1677; married Jan Claessen Romeyn, of N. J. 3. Claes Janse, of Bedford and Harlaem. 4. Jan Janse. 5. Gessie Janse, married Roeloff Lubbertse Westervelt. 6. CORNELISE JANSE, baptized November 17th, 1684. III. CORNELISE JANSE BOGERT, married Willemetje Alberse and had issue IV. ALBERT BOGERT, born January 1st, 1715; baptized January 7th, 1715. Witnesses, Albert Stevense and Elena, his wife. Died September 11th, 1774. He was born and lived in Sluckup (now Spring Valley), near Paramies, N. J. Married Matchel Zabriskwy, Oct. 21st, 1737, who died. Second wife, Sarah Demaree (born Dec. 21st, 17 ; died February 26th, 1743, and had issue: 1. Cornelius, born Aug. 9th, 1744. 2. DAVID, born May 14th, 1747; buried Oct. 23d, 1805. 3. Jan, born March or May 26th, 1749, about 8 p. m. 4. Sara, born Feb. 4th, 1751, about midday. 5. Wellemetje, born Aug. 3d, 1753, about 1 a. m. 6. Mareya, born Dec. 17th, 1756. 7. Jacobus, born March 18th, 1759, about 1 a. m. V. DAVID BOGERT, married Cornelia Ryckman, July 26th, 1769. She was born July 26th, 1750. They had issue as follows: 1. Sara, born Jan. 17th, 1771. 2. Cornelia, born Jan. 7th, 1773. 3. Welmpi, born Jan. 30th, 1776. 4. Tobyes, born Aug. 30th, 1778. 5. Marya, born Oct. 4th, 1781. 6. ALLEBERT, born Jan. 16th, 1783. 7. Annee, born Oct. 4th, 1785. 8. Elizabeth, born March 30th, 1788. 9. David, born June 1st, 1790. 10. Catrina, born Dec. 5th, 1795. VI. ALLEBERT (Albert) BOGERT, married Rachel Blauvelt Nov. 9th, 1804. They had issue: 1. Cornelia, born Aug. 3d, 1806. 2. Daniel, born April 14th, 1811; died Feb. 1st, 1834. 3. DAVID A., born Oct. 31st, 1814. 4. Rachel, born Nov. 25th, 1816. 5. Maria, born Nov. 2d, 1819. 6. JOHN A., born Oct. 4th, 1824. 7. Catherine Ann, born May 24th, 1829. VII. DAVID A. BOGERT, married, Dec. 23d, 1837, Phebe Ann Osborn, daughter of George and Martha Stratton Osborn, of Vernon, Sussex county, N. J. (born Dec. 17th, 1818). They had issue: 1. Ryckman D., born Nov. 8th, 1839; died. Married, July 5th, 1863, Mary Jane

Bush; no issue. During the Civil War was an Assistant Surgeon. Was a practicing physician in Rockland county, in New York city and in Paterson, N. J. 2. Sandford, born Nov. 21st, 1841; married, Feb. 10th, 1868, Catherine Maria Van Riper. They had issue: (a) Anna, born May 25th, 1873; died Sept. 9th, 1873. (b) Ada, born Nov. 7th, 1874. 3. Sylvester S., born Sept. 23d, 1844; married, Oct. 28th, 1869, Sara Katrina Van Zandt. He was a practicing physician in New York city for nearly thirty-six years and now resides at Pearl River, N. Y. They had issue: (a) Helen Alberta, born April 5th, 1872. (b) David Van Zandt, born July 12th, 1881. 4. Albert Osborn, born July 19th, 1851; married, March 1st, 1873, Mary C. Everett. He is a practicing physician in the county. They have issue: (a) Alice Emily, born June 3d, 1874. (b) Ella Sylvester, born April 30th, 1876. (c) David Albert, born August, 1878. (d) Anna Clementine, born June 19th, 1881. (e) Frances Rose, born May 14th, 1882. JOHN A. BOGERT, married Charity H. Johnston, daughter of John A. and Sally Mead Johnston. They had issue: 1. Daniel J. A., born Sept. 14th, 1845; married Emily Van Buskirk and had issue: (a) Mary, born Nov. 29th, 1866. (b) Hannah Priscilla, born May 24th, 1869. Married 2nd. No issue. 2. Francis Marion, born Sept. 19th, 1851; married Mary M. Turpenning. Had issue: (a) Nelson F. Turpenning, born July 27th, 1874.

SYLVESTER S. BOGERT, M. D., was born on the 23rd day of September, 1844, at what is now known as Pearl River, Rockland county, N. Y. He received a common school education at Orangeville, in the same county, where he attended from his sixth to his sixteenth year. Following that he studied medicine with his oldest brother, attending the sessions of the College of Physicians and Surgeons during the winters of 1863-4-5, from which institution he graduated March 9th, 1865. He practiced medicine in the city of New York from June 10th, 1865, to April 26th, 1901. He occupied the chair of Surgery from July, 1865, to June, 1866, and that of Diseases of the Heart and Lungs from the latter date until February, 1876, in the New York Dispensary. From that period until March, 1887, he was House Physician of the Eastern Dispensary in the city of New York. April 26th, 1901, he located at Pearl River, where he now has an extensive practice which covers the territory in and around that village. In politics Dr. Bogert is

a Republican, and while taking a deep interest in political matters, has never occupied public office, owing to the exacting duties of his profession. He is a member of the order of Masons, Knights of Pythias, Foresters, Sons of Temperance, Knights of the Golden Cross and the Golden Star. October 28th, 1869, he married Sara Kathrina Van Zandt, of Middletown (now Pearl River), N. Y. They have two children, Helen Alberta and David Van Zandt, both unmarried, and both residing at home.

ALBERT O. BOGERT, M. D., was born at Pearl River July 19th, 1851. He attended the public schools of that place and later entered the State Normal College at Albany. In the winter of 1871 he taught in the public schools of Nanuet and the following year entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York, from which he graduated in 1875. He settled for the practice of his profession first at New City, where he remained only a short time, and removed to Haverstraw. Here he practiced as a physician a few months and subsequently practiced at Pearl River, in Orangetown. In 1888 he came to Spring Valley. Dr. Bogert was for ten years Justice of the Peace of Orangetown. He has held the office of Associate County Judge two terms and for the past ten years has been a member of the Board of Education of Spring Valley, of which he is now President. In 1873 he was united in marriage with Mary C., daughter of Captain David B. Everett, of Pearl River, formerly of Rockland, Maine. They have four children: Mrs. Alexander H. Merritt, of Spring Valley; Mrs. Herbert Straut, of New York; Mrs. Irvin H. Dexter, of Pearl River, and Miss Frances R. Bogert. His father, David A. Bogert, was born near Pearl River, Oct. 31st, 1814. He was a tanner by occupation until the last twenty years of his life, when he lived retired. His wife, Phebe Ann Osborn, was born December 17th, 1818, and died August 27th, 1901. He died August 9th, 1895. They have four children: Ryckman D., who died about the year 1880; Sandford, now living at Weariums, Bergen county, N. J.; Dr. S. S. Bogert, of Pearl River, and Dr. Albert O. Bogert.

W. PARKER SMITH was born in the Washington Headquarters House at Tappan, Oct. 15, 1860. He received his education in the Nyack public schools and also attended a private school at Piermont. About 1876, his father having died, his mother moved to Spring Val-

ley and during the two years following he attended the public school at that place. In 1879 he took the position of Deputy Postmaster for his uncle, who was Postmaster of Spring Valley, and occupied that position three years. In 1881 Mr. Smith received an appointment in the New York Post Office, but for various reasons did not qualify. The same year he accepted a position as house salesman for Wilkinson, Gaddis & Co., wholesale grocers and commission merchants of Newark, N. J. He remained with this firm three years and then moved to Spring Valley. The first year of his residence here he was employed by the insurance companies doing business in the county to compile a county rating book of insurance risks. He then accepted a position in the insurance office of ex-Assemblyman Lawrence, of Jersey City Heights, N. J., where he remained three years. In 1886 Mr. Smith returned to Spring Valley and purchased the insurance business of Thomas H. Gemmel. This he sold out the following year and purchased a half interest in the boot and shoe store of Bohr & Smith, and in 1898 bought out the entire business. Mr. Smith has served as a member of the Board of Education and as an officer of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. In September, 1887, he married Amy F. Gebhard, of Spring Valley. They had one child, who died in infancy. They are members of the Spring Valley Reformed Church, of which Mr. Smith is a deacon, and for many years was the superintendent of the Sunday school. His father, Dr. T. Blanch Smith, was born near Blauveltville in 1832. He was a graduate of Columbia College and studied medicine with that eminent physician, Dr. Hasbrouck. In 1859 Dr. Smith bought the old Washington Headquarters at Tappan and lived there until 1869, when he removed to Nyack. He held numerous public offices while a resident of that place and at the time of his death, in 1875, was President of the village.

JOHN MAGEE was born October 20, 1856, in the county of Armagh, in the north of Ireland. At five years of age his parents came to America, settling at Piermont. He received his education in the public schools and also attended the private school of Prof. Walsh of that place. He then took up the stone mason trade and served three years with his father and shortly after went to New York, where he learned the trade of a brick mason. He next went to Pittsburg and was employed in building the Carnegie Steel Company works at Braddock,

and then, in 1875, he started west as a journeyman mason. After three years experience in California, and a year in building railroad bridges on the Isthmus of Panama, he returned to New York and for the ten years following was employed in that city and in Brooklyn. He then returned to Piermont and in July, 1880, married Elizabeth Kennedy, of Nyack. They have had ten children, nine of whom are living: John, Francis, James, William, Elizabeth, Sarah, Margaret, Rose, Violet, Mary (who died in infancy), Marcella and Helen. In 1888 Mr. Magee engaged in the mason and contracting business for himself in Nyack and has since established an enviable reputation in that line of work. He is the acknowledged leader in the mason contracting business in this section. Mr. Magee has constructed many fine blocks and residences, not alone in Nyack, but in other towns as well. He erected St. Agatha's Convent at Nanuet and the Church of the Transfiguration at Tarrytown, the First Reformed Church and the Harrison & Dalley block in Nyack, the Bell Memorial Chapel at South Nyack, the Lewis, Wolfe, Pell and Fish residences at Tuxedo, the Stersberg residence at Bernardsville, N. J., the Allen White house at Montclair, and has constructed other large buildings and fine residences which attest his skill.

C. IRVING HOPPER was born in Clarkstown one and one-half miles southeast of Spring Valley, October 23, 1854. He attended private and public schools at Spring Valley and Nanuet and finished his education in Hasbrouck Institute at Jersey City, graduating from that institution in 1872. He then devoted his time to assisting his father on the farm and in managing his business affairs. In the early part of the eighteenth century Garret Hopper came from the northern part of New Jersey and settled in Rockland county. He acquired a parcel of land from James VanOrden near Scotland Hill. This property fell to his son, Andrew G. Hopper, and at his death his son, Albert T., bought up the interests of the remaining heirs, and with the assistance of his son, C. Irving Hopper, worked the place until his death, and in 1894 it was sold to Edward T. Lovatt, of New York, the present owner. Albert T. Hopper was born June 6th, 1837, and married Ann, daughter of Cornelius A. Blauvelt. His life was spent on his farm, where in connection with the regular duties of a farmer, he established about the year 1857 a wholesale meat business, which he conducted through life, and which his son, C. Irving Hopper, took up and still continues. Mr. Hopper

has served as a member of the Board of Education, as Highway Commissioner in the Town of Ramapo and is a member of Ramapo Council Royal Arcanum of Spring Valley. September 25th, 1888, he married Amy B., daughter of Dr. T. B. Smith, of Nyack. They have three children: Blanch S., A. Russell and Ellen A.

WILLIAM M. FINCH, Sloatsburg, was born in Dewitt county, Michigan, April 1st, 1858, and when a child his parents moved to Ramapo. At eleven years of age he began work in the iron ore mines of the Sterling Mountain Railway Co. He worked in the mines until eighteen years of age, when the same company gave him a position in their car shops, where he remained three years. The following three years he was employed as brakeman for the Erie Railroad between Jersey City and Greycourt. Coming then to Tuxedo Park, he was employed by Meade & Taft as journeyman carpenter for seven years. In 1890 he, with Robert W. McCready, established a general contracting and building business, under the firm name of McCready & Finch. This business has since reached large proportions and the firm has a large share of the Tuxedo patronage. Mr. Finch is a member of the Board of Education of Sloatsburg, a member of Monroe Lodge and Eureka Chapter, F. and A. M.; the Mecca Shrine, Scottish Rite, of New York; Ramapo Lodge of Red Men, Junior O. U. A. M., and the Sons of Veterans. In 1880 Mr. Finch married Matilda Storms of Ringwood, N. J. They have three children: Edward, Maud E. and Robert McCready. Four who are not now living were Hattie, Annie, William Percy and Lillie B.

JAMES CURTIS GREGORY. Henry Gregory, of the House of Gregory, of Leicestershire and Nottingham, England, came over to the Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1630, and settled finally in Stratford, Conn., where his will was admitted to probate June 19th, 1655, as per the records. In the English pedigree registered at Nottingham, he was named "Henry of Boston," cadet. Judah, oldest son of Henry, was the original settler of Danbury, Conn. The 5th generation after Henry of Boston, Albert, was born in Danbury, Conn., in 1800, and married Jane Low (1828), of Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Vassar College now occupies a portion of the Low farm. In 1838 Albert moved to Wawarsing, Ulster county, N. Y., and with James Benedict built a number of saw mills, carrying on an extensive manufacturing business under the firm name

of Gregory & Benedict. In 1840 James Curtis, his sixth child, was born. In 1858 James went to Albany and entered in the employ of the firm of J. Benedict & Son, wholesale lumber merchants. First as yard man, next as salesman and foreman and later as manager. In 1887 he removed to Nyack, N. Y., forming a partnership with George Gurnee, of Rockland county, and doing a general business in lumber, coal and mason's materials, under the name of Gurnee & Gregory. In 1897 George Gurnee retiring, the firm name became and now continues as Gregory & Sherman. Mr. M. B. Sherman buying out the interest of George Gurnee. James Curtis Gregory's ancestor, Judah Gregory, the original settler of Danbury, bought of the Indians in 1680 about 500 acres of land. This property has always been and continues to remain in the possession of the Gregory family. They have no recorded deed further than the instrument given by the Indians. The members of the Gregory family are remarkably long lived as a rule, the average ages of four being ninety-six years, and Mr. J. C. Gregory's grandmother, whose maiden name was Sears, lived to be over 100 years old. James Curtis Gregory's family consists of wife and two children, a son and a daughter, J. Fall Gregory and Jane M. Gregory. Mr. Gregory is identified with educational and church interests. He is President of the Board of Trustees and Treasurer of the First Baptist Church, a director and treasurer of the Y. M. C. A., a trustee of the Nyack library, of which he was one of the incorporators, and for six years he has been a member of the Nyack Board of Education. He is identified with the Masonic fraternity and during his long residence in Nyack has done much to foster the best interests of the village.

ALBERT G. BOGERT was born at Teaneck (West Englewood), N. J., September 21, 1817. His ancestors settled there long before the Revolution. His early years up to sixteen years of age were passed on his father's farm. In 1833 he began learning the carpenter's trade at Englewood. He remained in Englewood a number of years, afterwards removing to New York, where he engaged in the contracting and building business. Mr. Bogert's business motto was: "Use good material; do good work; charge good prices," and by absolutely living up to the letter of this motto he obtained the reputation which secured for him the patronage of the majority of the wealthy men of New York. The value of the many beautiful residences which he erected and fin-

ished, together with business buildings and public edifices, would aggregate millions of dollars. He finished the A. T. Stewart palace, at the time of its erection many years ago, and which has just recently been removed. This was one of the most expensively finished dwellings in America and the interior decorations have probably never been excelled. It was one of many of Mr. Bogert's achievements. For years Mr. Bogert served as President of the Mechanics and Tradesman's Society of New York, and for eighteen years was treasurer of the Northern Dispensary Company (for dispensing drugs to the poor), situated in Christopher street, New York. He is also a life member of the New York Bible Society and for over forty years was a Director of the Greenwich Bank of New York city. Mr. Bogert has lived a life of intense activity. His varied business interests and the society demands, which necessarily come to a man in his position, while adding to the burden, were so systematized and woven into the everyday affairs that he was enabled to give to each its proper attention. Some ten years ago Mr. Bogert retired from the active affairs of business life and has since then made his residence in Nyack.

WATSON TOMKINS, son of Hon. Daniel Tomkins, was born in Newark, N. J., May 5, 1829, and with his parents moved to Orange, where he attended the common schools and the Academy. The family subsequently returned to Newark and he attended the Orange street school for a time. In 1838 his father came to Tomkins Cove with a company of sixteen for the purpose of establishing lime kilns and procuring limestone for their kilns at Newark, and Watson Tomkins came three or four days later in a sloop called "Young Hickory." Of the company that came Watson Tomkins is the sole survivor. The events of the trip, his first journey from home, made a deep impression upon the mind of the youthful traveler, and the same vessel that brought them hither (a small sloop named the *Contrivance*) is still in the possession of Mr. Tomkins, the oldest vessel on the Hudson, with one exception. The party having landed their effects, the sloop was loaded with limestone and sent back to Newark. The first shelter of the party was a rude shanty, but a house was soon built and when it was completed his mother came. The limestone quarry was opened, a wharf was built and a business was begun which has ever since been a source of wealth. When the business of brick-making began to assume large proportions, Mr. Tom-

kins engaged in it with his brother-in-law, Brewster J. Allison, and they had for a period extensive brick yards at Grassy Point. This partnership was terminated at the end of three years. His father having purchased the farm of Samuel Brewster, south of Stony Point, they commenced making brick on their own account. At the present time Mr. Tomkins leases most of his land to manufacturers. In September, 1851, Mr. Tomkins married Amanda, youngest daughter of Hon. George S. Allison. Her father purchased the farm which formerly belonged to Tobias Waldron and presented it to his daughter, and for a few years they lived in the old house on that property, which was a relic of the days before the Revolution. They moved to this place in 1862, and in 1872 he built his present elegant residence, which overlooks the river and the far-famed Stony Point, the scene of General Anthony Wayne's great victory. Mr. Tomkins has had three children: Helen A., deceased; Ida F., who married Henry W. Allison, and Mary A., who is married to Bayard Fonda.

Mr. Tomkins is one of the representative men of Rockland county, a man of advanced ideas, of sound, practical knowledge, the foe of everything that is based upon sham. In politics a Republican, in religion a Presbyterian, a firm and strong friend of the temperance cause, and an active promoter of any project that tends to increase the welfare and advance the interest of the community. The labors of an active life have been crowned with well merited success, and those who know him best are the most prompt to recognize the strength of his purpose in life and the excellence of his character.

ALEXANDER ROSE, Supervisor of the town of Stony Point, was born in the village of Stony Point. He attended the public schools there and for a time was identified with the grocery business. In 1882 he became engaged in the manufacture of brick, a business which he still continues. Mr. Rose has always been an active worker for the good of his town and party. In both he is a prominent factor. He was elected Supervisor in 1891, and has conducted the affairs pertaining to this office in a manner that has the warm approval of the public generally, irrespective of party lines. Socially, Alexander Rose is a member of Stony Point Lodge, F. and A. M., of Haverstraw, No. 313, and of the Red Men, and is respected and highly regarded by all. He was the first

Republican Chairman of the Board of Supervisors in the history of Rockland county.

WILLIAM L. TOSTEVIN, the superintendent of the Rockland Print Works at West Haverstraw, is a native of Racine, Wisconsin. He received his education in the public schools and then entered the establishment of which he is now the general manager as a sketch maker. He worked at this branch of the business for thirteen years, when he was appointed Assistant Superintendent, and advanced to his present position of Superintendent in 1900. The position he fills is a most important one, giving him control over eight hundred hands and one of the largest plants in this country. These works have turned out goods notable in the market and have secured numerous prizes, medals, etc., chief among which was the Gold Medal at the Paris Exposition. Mr. Tostevin is a Chapter Mason. His wife was Miss Elizabeth Taylor and their family consists of one child, Lansing W. Tostevin.

GEORGE BARDIN, proprietor of the Hotel St. George, Nyack, N. Y., was born in Belgium in 1840, and came to America in 1868. He started in the hotel business in 1872, as a caterer for the Erie railroad offices, in Twenty-third street, New York city, and also kept a small house for the convenience of the Erie railroad officials at 262 West Twenty-fourth street, and catered for a large boarding house at 91 Fifth avenue. He opened the Sherwood House, Fifth avenue and Forty-fourth street, in the same capacity, and in the summer of 1874-'75 conducted the Tappan Zee House at Nyack, known at that time as the Rev. D. L. Mansfield's Female Seminary. He afterwards became the proprietor of that house, remaining as such for several years, when he opened the Hotel St. George, October, 1886, which he has made a very popular hotel by reason of his excellent management. The St. George is one of the best known hostelrys in the country, patronized by tourists enroute from New York to Tuxedo and other coaching parties, also the headquarters of bicyclists. The cuisine, unexcelled, has given it a wide reputation. He is an active member of the New York Hotel Association, and has a large acquaintance among the hotel fraternity generally. He is a member of Rockland Lodge, No. 723, F. and A. M., the Nyack Rowing Association, Cerele de l'Harmonie and other organizations, and he is one of the best known and most successful hotel men of the time.

JOHN P. SMITH was born in Nyack and educated at the public schools and Lee's Academy, from which he graduated in 1877. In 1867 his father, James E. Smith, purchased the ship-building business located on the Hudson river at the foot of Fourth avenue. This plant was established in 1836 and is now one of the oldest concerns of the kind on the river. In 1878 John P. Smith entered the employ of his father as an apprentice, going through every branch of the establishment and mastering every detail of the trade. He became the firm's manager and remained so until the death of his father, in 1889, when he succeeded to the ownership of the business. In April, 1901, the firm was incorporated as the John P. Smith Company, with John P. Smith as Secretary, Treasurer and General Manager. Since the incorporation the company have purchased land adjoining and now have a water frontage of over 700 feet. They have in contemplation extensive improvements and plans for enlarging the capacity of the works, which it is expected will be accomplished before the close of another season. Some of the fastest yachts in American waters have been built at this yard, notably the sloop yacht Gracie, the schooner Madeline, which successfully defended the American cup against the Canadian schooner Countess of Dufferin, the Tidal Wave schooner, the schooner yacht Republic, the schooner yacht Brunhelde, for John J. Phelps, son of William Walter Phelps, and it was claimed the first American sailing yacht that made a trip around the world, the sloop yacht Sylbel, the schooner yacht Elsmarie, the sloop yacht Nellie, the steam yacht Gadabout, the steam yacht Meteor, the twin-screw steamer Tourist, and the side-wheel steamboat Elberon of the New York and Redbank line. This company is also largely engaged in rebuilding and repairing vessels of all descriptions and this yard is the principal refitting headquarters for large yachts on the river. Mr. Smith has been a member of the Board of Education for the past seven years, up to last October (1901), when he tendered his resignation. He is Past Master of Rockland Lodge, F. and A. M., and Past High Priest of Rockland Chapter, No. 204. He is also a member of the Board of Trustees of the Presbyterian Church and has been the secretary of the Board for the past twelve years. The ancestors of Mr. Smith have been residents of the county for many generations. His grandfather, Peter A. Smith, was a well known river captain, and his father also in his early years followed the river until he went to learn the

ship-building trade. Mr. Smith married Elizabeth A. Graham, niece of Mrs. William Randolph, of Nyack, and they have one son, James Edmond.

M. WATSON DE BAUN. The Hudson valley became in the first half of the eighteenth century the abode of many French Protestant families, "of that high minded race who for the sake of conscience made these Western wilds their home." At the time of the revocation of the edict of Nantes they fled to this country and settling along the Hudson became the founders of many of the prominent and leading families in this vicinity. Karl DeBaun, a pioneer and leading spirit of that period, settled near Rockland Lake, from whom M. Watson DeBaun and the DeBaun family of Rockland county are lineal descendants. One of a family of six children, M. Watson DeBaun was born in Nyack. He attended the public schools of Nyack and New City and when nine years of age went to live with his grandfather, Henry R. Stephens, at New City. He afterwards learned the carpenter's and builder's trade and in 1859 returned to Nyack, where he has since carried on the business of contracting and building upon an extensive scale. He has, in connection with his brother, H. DeBaun, under the firm name of M. W. and H. DeBaun, erected nearly 2,000 buildings of various kinds and sizes from the mansion of the millionaire to the modest residence of the artisan. Mr. DeBaun is one of the Directors of the Nyack Board of Trade. He is a Mason and was a Trustee of the village in 1883-'87, and has been President of the Presbyterian Church Board for the past twenty-two years, and of the school board for two terms. He married Catherine, daughter of Edward Perry, in 1862, and has a family of four children: Anna and Ella DeBaun, both missionaries in Mexico, Alice, and Florence, who married Rev. George Johnson, who is also a missionary in Mexico.

H. W. BOYD, V. S., Nyack's leading veterinary surgeon, is a native of Vermont, having been born in Wilmington, December, 1861. He attended the local schools of Wilmington and afterwards the High School in New York city. He also graduated from the American Veterinary College there. In 1888 he began the practice of his profession at Englewood, where he remained for nine years. In 1898 he opened an office in Nyack and very soon became the leading practitioner in vet-

crinary surgery in this vicinity of the State. Dr. Boyd is also identified with local affairs, corporate and social. He is a member of the American Association of Veterinary Colleges and of the Knights of Pythias. He is married and has one child. Dr. Boyd's ancestors were among the early settlers of Vermont and their descendants have always taken a leading position in the affairs of that State.

THOMAS F. TASMAN. For more than half a century the Tasman undertaking establishment has been identified with the business interests of the lower Hudson valley. Thomas Tasman, Sr., founded the business in London, England, in the early part of the nineteenth century, and in 1835 came to America, locating in New York, where he began the manufacture of trunks and also conducted an undertaking business. In 1847 he came to Nyack and was employed as a carpenter until 1857, when he opened an undertaking establishment, which has been uninterruptedly continued up to the present time. Thomas F. Tasman was born on Staten Island July 1, 1838. At thirteen years of age he was apprenticed to a firm of jewel case manufacturers in New York. He remained with them five years, then came to Nyack and began work for A. J. & H. E. Storms, cedar ware manufacturers. From a boy he worked up to foreman of the shop, which position he retained until the dissolution of the business in 1870. During his term of service in this business he also served as assistant to his father in the undertaking establishment, and in 1870 was made a partner with him. In 1872 he purchased his father's interest and has since successfully conducted it, with the assistance of his son Harry. They have recently moved into new quarters, especially arranged and fitted for their purpose, at the corner of Broadway and Remsen street. Mr. Tasman was united in marriage with Miss Mary Perry of Nyack. They have three children: Robert H., who married May Leonard, and they have one son, Harold; Emily Valeria, who married George Edward Gregory, of the National City Bank of New York, and Harry P., who married Myra Giles, of West Nyack, and they have two sons, Giles and Earle. Mr. Tasman has for a number of years been trustee of the public schools and was for twenty years superintendent of Oak Hill Cemetery. He is now serving on the Board of Fire Commissioners. He is also a member of Rockland Lodge, No. 723, F. and A. M., and was an Odd Fellow from 1861 to 1880. In 1859 he joined the Methodist Church of this village and has held all

the offices in the church, including that of superintendent of the Sunday school, which he held for several years.

DR. GEORGE S. WRITER is a native of Otisville, N. Y., where he received a common school education. After leaving school he took up the study of dentistry, and in 1898 graduated from the Philadelphia Dental College. Soon after leaving college he opened an office in Otisville, remaining there until October, 1899, when he removed to Nyack. Dr. Writer has pleasant, commodious offices on North Broadway, corner of First avenue. He has all the latest improvements in dental appliances for painless operations and is a skilled workman in all branches pertaining to modern dentistry. The doctor makes a specialty of crown and bridge work. He is securing the confidence and patronage of many wealthy Nyack families, who have formerly had much of their work done in New York city. Dr. Writer is a member of Grand Lodge, No. 385, Knights of Pythias.

DENTON FOWLER, JR., was born in Haverstraw, N. Y., October 25th, 1856. His preliminary education was received in the public schools and he afterwards attended Packard's Business College. While still a boy he began work in his father's brick yards, in which way he became familiar with every department of the business. In 1880 he embarked in business for himself and organized the firm of D. Fowler, Jr., & Co., which has since carried on an extensive trade in the brick industry. Mr. Fowler devotes his attention to the manufacture of brick, and allows no outside matters to interfere with his chosen work. With the firms of U. F. Washburn & Co., and Washburn & Fowler he occupies the positions of secretary and treasurer. The attractive residence of Mr. Fowler, which was the old Judge Suffern homestead, on Allison avenue, is mentioned in Dr. Freeman's "Thirty Years in Haverstraw." Mr. Fowler was married, December 19th, 1894, to Miss Lucretia, daughter of Samuel Snedeker. Both Mr. and Mrs. Fowler are members of the Presbyterian Church.

EDGAR TILTON. Three Tiltons, John, William and Peter, came to New England in 1639-'40. John and William were without doubt brothers, and first settled in Lynn, Mass. Peter was a son of William Tilton and first settled at Windsor, Conn., coming from England in

1639, with the Rev. Ephraim Huit, who settled in colleague with the Rev. John Wareham, pastor of the church at Windsor. Peter was married the same year. In 1659 he removed to Hadley, Mass., and was a prominent citizen and a Representative to the General Court. He had but one son, Peter, who died single. William Tilton, as above, is an ancestor of the New England Tiltons. He died in Lynn in 1653, leaving a widow, Susanna, and three sons (by her), Samuel, Abraham and Daniel. She married, second, in 1653, Roger Shaw, of Hampton, N. H. and with Samuel and Daniel moved to Hampton. Abraham apprenticed himself, Dec. 25, 1653, to John Hood, of Lynn, but his apprenticeship was early terminated and we next find him with his father-in-law at Hampton. Peter, as above, must have been the son of William by an earlier marriage, and was in his maturity when he came over to New England. John Tilton removed from Lynn, 1643, to Grovesend, Long Island, Essex county. Court records reveal the fact that his wife, with others, held religious views that were deemed heretical and subjected them to trial. This persecution led to their removal from Grovesend. John Tilton kept the town records of Grovesend for many years, and the original book is still there. He left three sons and four daughters. Two sons, John and Peter, went to Monmouth county, New Jersey, the third, Thomas, went to Delaware. John Tilton (2) had five sons and three daughters. Edgar Tilton, of Suffern is a descendant of John Tilton, of Monmouth county, N. J. On his mother's side he is descended from old Revolutionary stock. John White, his great grandfather, was, 1790, the first Postmaster of Baltimore, Md., appointed by George Washington. Judge Edgar Tilton has been a resident of Rockland county since 1892. Coming here at that time from New York, where for thirty years he conducted a flourishing trade in tropical goods as an importer. Wishing to retire from the life of nervous activity incident to the business in which he was engaged, he disposed of his commercial interests in New York and removed to Suffern, where he purchased a handsome residence, within the eastern portion of the village. Judge Tilton was born September 23, 1843, in Brooklyn, N. Y. His education was acquired in the schools of New York and Brooklyn and Columbia Grammar School, College of New York. He was first married to Ellen C. Putney, daughter of Rev. R. C. Putney, of New York city. She died in 1884, leaving two children, the eldest, Rev. Edgar Tilton, Jr., pastor of the Colgate Reformed Church of the City of New York,

and Agnes E. Tilton, living at home. He was again married in 1887 to Rebecca M. Ford, daughter of Alpheus H. Ford, of Ottawa, Ill. In 1897 he was appointed Justice of the Peace to succeed Harry C. Wanamaker, and in November of 1898 was re-elected to the same responsible office, showing conclusively the esteem and confidence in which he is held by the voters of that district, and the acceptable manner in which he transacts all legal matters coming under his jurisdiction.

TALBOT CHAMBERS DEXTER was born at Galena, Ill., April 20th, 1857. He attended the public schools until the age of fourteen, when he entered the office of the "Iowa State Register," Des Moines, Ia., serving a four years' apprenticeship as pressman. He was then employed by the Western Newspaper Union of the same place for seven years, the last three of which he occupied a position as foreman of the press room. It was during this period that he invented the Dexter Folding Machine, which formed the nucleus of the Dexter Folder Co. The company was organized in Des Moines, Ia., for the manufacture of these machines and was carried on successfully for eight years, when it was deemed advisable to remove the establishment east. A location was secured at Fulton, N. Y., in 1890, and the business was carried on at that point until 1894, when the company decided to secure a permanent site nearer New York city. This resulted in their locating permanently at Pearl River, N. Y. They now occupy their own plant and furnish employment to a force of 250 men. The subject of this sketch is secretary and general manager of the corporation. Mr. Dexter was married May 21st, 1878, to Mary E. Hall, a daughter of Joseph E. Hall, of Des Moines, Ia. They have had six children, four of whom are living. In politics Mr. Dexter is a staunch Republican. Both he and Mrs. Dexter are members of the Methodist Church.

William P. Dexter, father of Talbot Chambers Dexter, was born in West Randolph, Vt. He was a cabinet maker by trade and carried on for years a furniture business in Galena, Ill., in the same building with Gen. Grant's father. Mr. Dexter, Sr., was married to Anna B. Chambers, a native of Ohio, at Galena, Ill. They removed to Iowa in 1860.

CLARENCE M. TRAVIS, Nyack, is a native of West Taghkanic, N. Y., born December 13, 1877. He is a descendant of Titus Travis, who

participated in the war of the Revolution, and was a pioneer settler of this State. C. M. Travis received his education in the schools of Poughkeepsie and Eastman's Business College, and became identified with the business of making monuments, headstones, etc., in Plainfield, N. J., at an early age. On February 25th, 1899, he located in Nyack, N. Y., bought a lot at the corner of Main street and Midland avenue and built upon it, and now has on hand a well selected stock of monuments and headstones and has gained a high reputation for turning out artistic work. His trade extends throughout Rockland, Putnam and Orange counties, and in New Jersey. As an instance of his reputation in turning out high class work, we may mention that he designed and made the monument for the grave of Sergeant "Bill" Anthony in Evergreen Cemetery, Brooklyn. The monument is of rough granite, four feet high, three feet wide and two feet in thickness, and the inscription on the polished surface includes the words in which Anthony was orderly reported the disaster to the Maine to Capt. Sigsbee. C. M. Travis is a member of the Nyack Board of Trade and of the Agricultural Society and is a fireman. Mr. Travis married, June 12, 1900, Sarah T. Lovatt, daughter of Hon. Edward T. Lovatt, of Tarrytown, N. Y. The ancestors of the Travis family in America were seven brothers who came from Scotland during the War for Independence. One of these brothers, Titus Travis, was a soldier in that war, in Colonel Ludington's Dutchess county regiment. He was the great, great grandfather of Clarence M. Travis. The Travis homestead at Garrisons, opposite West Point, has been in the family for seven generations. The father of the subject of this sketch is the Rev. R. H. Travis, D. D., and his mother was Hannah M. Hustis.

HON. THOMAS FINEGAN. The subject of this sketch was born in Haverstraw in 1852. After leaving school Mr. Finegan was employed in various ways for a number of years, during which time he learned the trade of mason and brick layer. In 1870 he accepted a position as expert brick layer with a Massachusetts concern, which position he retained for about ten years, his field of operations extending to all the large cities in the United States and Canada. In 1880 he was engaged on the construction of a portion of the New York elevated railroads and later on that of the Brooklyn bridge as mechanic. In 1881 he came to Haverstraw and opened a retail cigar store and one year from that date he purchased the mineral water business of the late John Hall, which he

is still successfully conducting. In 1895 he began brewing ale and porter and in 1900 added the brewing of lager beer. The business has rapidly increased and enlarged to such an extent that Mr. Finegan has found it expedient to take into partnership his son, James E. In 1891 Mr. Finegan was elected on the Democratic ticket a member of the Legislature, his opponent on the Republican ticket being Hon. Arthur S. Tompkins. He was re-elected in 1892, over Alexander Rose, of Stony Point. Mr. Finegan has always shown an active interest in real estate matters and for several years was Town Assessor. He is a member of Rockland Lodge, Foresters of America.

FRED W. SNOW, the son of William W. Snow, was born at Woonsocket, R. I., Sept. 12th, 1853. He commenced his education in the public schools of Jersey City, afterward attended a private school in Newburgh and the Peekskill Military Academy and finally he entered the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute at Troy, N. Y. At the completion of his second year in the institute, in July, 1872, he entered the Rhode Island Locomotive Works, at Providence, to learn the practical part of iron manufacturing. In 1875 he returned to Hillburn and took the position of Assistant Superintendent of the Ramapo Wheel and Foundry Company, which office he held until 1881, when the Ramapo Iron Works was organized, and he accepted the position of superintendent of this company, resigning his former position. In May, 1900, he was elected to the office of President and General Manager of the company, and holds that position to-day. He also holds the office of President of the Rockland Electric Company and the Mountain Spring Water Company. In 1895 Mr. Snow was selected by the State Commission to represent them in securing for the State of New York a suitable building and location at the Atlanta Exposition. That Mr. Snow was an able representative is evidenced by the fact that he secured by far the finest site on the grounds, and the building itself, instead of sharing the fate of the balance of the exposition buildings, was donated by the Commission to the Piedmont Driving Association, on whose grounds it was located, and kept as a permanent structure for use as a club house. On October 27, 1881, Mr. Snow married Eugenie, only daughter of Daniel I. Hasbrouck, of Gardiner, Ulster county, N. Y. They have four children: Homer Hasbrouck, Marguerite, William Wait and Douglas Este. Mr. Snow is a member of the New England Society and other

social organizations. He is an enthusiastic Mason, having taken the various degrees, ending with that of the Mystic Shrine.

EDWARD ZOLLNER was born in Germany in the year 1838. He came to New York in 1855 and for the following twenty years was engaged in the manufacture of cigars there. In 1875 he bought the old Polhemus farm, located on the Bardonia Road, a half-mile distant from the Bardonia railroad station. Mr. Zollner's wife died a few years after their marriage, leaving two children. One child, Mrs. Addie Souers, died in 1900. The other daughter married Thomas B. Storms and they reside upon the farm. Mr. Zollner during his business life was very energetic and successful, and has since purchasing his farm vastly improved that property. He has just erected one of the most elegant mansions upon it to be found in Rockland county. It is artistic, systematically laid out and beautifully furnished. Mr. Zollner is a man of the strictest business integrity and deserves his well earned success.

STORMS FAMILY. John Storms, ancestor of this family, was born June 4th, 1791. His wife, Catharine, was born January 15, 1792. They had ten children, viz.: Sarah, born 1813; Emeline, born 1815; Abraham, born 1817; Henry E., born 1819; Elizabeth, born 1821; Rachael, born 1825; David O., born 1827; Mary Amanda, born 1829; Rachael M., born 1831; John, born 1835. David O. Storms married Matilda Blanch January 19, 1855. They had seven children: Cora, born 1859; Oscar, born 1861; Thomas, 1862; Harry, 1864; Frank, 1865; Ellsworth, 1867, and Jennie, born 1869; died 1871. Thomas was married to Mary E. Zollner, a daughter of Edward Zollner, June 14, 1885. They have four children living, Edward H., Louis L., Thomas B. and Marie.

GEORGE W. MITSCH was born at Haverstraw August 1, 1870. He attended the local schools and after leaving school took a clerical position, which he followed until 1892. Mr. Mitsch was then appointed Postmaster of West Haverstraw, July 16th, 1896, under the Cleveland administration. In May, 1898, he established his grocery business in West Haverstraw. He has also served as Collector of the Town of Haverstraw for the past six years. Mr. Mitsch is identified with all prom-

inent local benevolent and social institutions, such as Odd Fellows, Rescue Hook and Ladder Company, Presbyterian Church, etc. He was married to Miss Eleanor Estelle Conklin, a daughter of L. J. Conklin, September 11, 1892. George W. Mitsch is one of the soundest and most reliable business men of the county.

CHARLES BARDON, Collector of the Town of Clarkstown, is a son of Conrad Bardon, who purchased land on the Nyack Turnpike over forty years ago, upon which he settled. Here our subject was born, May 10, 1867. He is the youngest of a family of five children. His father besides being engaged in farming, also conducted a wood business, and lived upon the property here until his death, which occurred in 1880. Charles Bardon attended the Nanuet school and upon his father's death succeeded to the farm. In 1901 he was married to Emma C. Schonburg, of New York. Mr. Bardon is an important member of the Democratic party in Clarkstown. He has served as Commissioner of Highways for five years and as Collector for three terms (four years) and is still in this office. He is energetic and progressive and no doubt will become more and more useful to his party as time rolls on.

MAX GONDECK was born in Germany September 30, 1869. He came to America sixteen years ago and for the first four years was in the west, for a time engaged in farming. Our subject then returned east to Brooklyn, N. Y., and learned the butcher and retail meat business. After working at this for six years he came to West Nyack and bought property near the West Shore depot. Mr. Gondeck erected upon this a very convenient and up-to-date meat market and residence combined and also a fine barn. He does a good business which extends in all directions, covered by delivery wagons. Progressive, genial and pushing, Mr. Gondeck is sure of future success. He is married and has one child named Marguerite. He is a loyal member of the C. B. L. and of the Catholic Church.

B. F. SHAW, Manager of the Ramapo Car Wheel Company, was born at Turners, Orange county, N. Y., August 28, 1872. His parents moved to Ramapo when our subject was a child. He attended public school there and entered the employ of the company of which he is now manager, as office boy sixteen years ago. His ambition and ability were

recognized by his employers, who repeatedly advanced him, and eventually upon the reorganization of the concern in 1889, appointed him Manager. Mr. Shaw was married in 1896 to Julia Ford. They have one child, a girl, Marguerite. The Ramapo Car Wheel Company employs about one hundred hands and manufactures about fifty thousand wheels annually, a large number of which are exported to foreign countries. The works were established in 1866.

W. F. VAGTS, hotel keeper at Nanuet, was born in Germany, August 18th, 1855. He landed in this country the 14th of November, 1878, and worked in New York city for Henry Brinker & Co., in the market produce business, until 1890, and then for a time for Mr. Buhholz, in Brooklyn, N. Y. In 1894 he moved to Nanuet, and in 1895 bought his hotel property and livery stables. He was married in 1883 to Bertha Mahler, of Brooklyn. They have no issue. Mr. Vaghts is a member of the Nanuet fire department, Ancient Order of Foresters, Court Nanuet, 7976, I. O. O. F., 133, Steuben, and a benevolent society of New City.

IRA M. HEDGES, Jr., is a son of Charles A. Hedges, of Cornwall, N. Y., and a nephew of the late General Ira M. Hedges, of Haverstraw. He was born February 16, 1878, and received his education in the Haverstraw public schools and the high school at Cornwall-on-the-Hudson. After leaving school he became a telegraph operator and filled a position as operator at Liberty, N. Y., for one year. When Spain declared war against this country he enlisted in the 203rd New York Volunteers and served one year, being mustered out in March, 1899, with the rank of corporal. For a short time after this Mr. Hedges was engaged in business in Brooklyn, N. Y., and in 1901 came to Haverstraw to assume charge of his uncle's coal and lumber yards.

JOHN TROUP was born in Scotland November 4th, 1857. He learned his trade (stone cutter) in Scotland, and worked at his trade there. He came to this country in 1881, for a year was employed at Hollowell, Maine. He then secured a position in the Vermont quarries, where he remained eight years. Mr. Troup then engaged with Cooper, of Haverstraw, with whom he remained three years, and then established his present business five years ago. He has done much notable work

since starting business, such monuments as Kennedy's, Hahn's, Jones's, Crowley's, O'Neil's and O'Brien's in the local cemetery, and Murdock's, Brooks's, DeCamp's, etc., at Stony Point, are marked evidences of his skill. Mr. Troupe's family consists of wife (formerly Helen Matland) and five children: Helen R., William, James, Robert and Norman. Helen R. is a trained nurse in St. Luke's Hospital in New York city.

HOWARD S. COURTNEY was born at Fitchburg, Mass., January 10th, 1877. When a child his parents removed to Attleboro, Mass., where he received his education and early training. He afterwards attended Amherst College. In 1900 he came to Rockland county and in Nyack embarked in business as a florist, growing roses for the New York market. Success attended him from the beginning. With a natural aptitude and love for the business and a persevering, energetic disposition, he soon created a demand for his stock. With the ever increasing trade came the necessity for more buildings and more room. Therefore in March, 1900, Mr. Courtney removed his establishment to Sparkill, some five miles below Nyack. Mr. Courtney is easily the largest grower of roses in Rockland county. He has seven large buildings devoted exclusively to their culture and in four other buildings he grows carnations, sweet peas and smilax. Altogether he has eleven houses at present in Sparkill, which aggregate 28,000 feet of glass.

JOHN W. HARRISON is a native of Kent, England. He came to America about thirty-three years ago, and to Nyack, N. Y., in 1891 to live. The firm of Harrison & Dalley, of which he is the senior member, was established here in 1887 and has occupied the present quarters since 1894. Prior to establishing business in Nyack, Mr. Harrison conducted a business at Newport, R. I. The firm of Harrison & Dalley are members of the New York Dry Goods Exchange. This enables them to obtain goods at jobbing prices. Their business in Nyack embraces two floors with basement, 50x144 feet in dimensions, which gives them 21,600 square feet of floor space. They carry a heavy stock of merchandise. Mr. Harrison is a Mason, a member of the Nyack Board of Trade and the Nyack Rowing Association, and is one of the solid business men of Rockland county.

ADAM HILLENBRAND, Superintendent of the German Masonic Home at Tappan, N. Y., was born in Germany August 7th, 1853. He came to America in 1876, and for two years after his arrival worked in a bakery. Mr. Hillenbrand then the following twenty years was identified with the manufacture of leather specialties and for four years he conducted a dry goods establishment in Brooklyn, N. Y. In 1901 he was appointed Superintendent of the German Masonic Home at Tappan, which position he now occupies. Mr. Hillenbrand is a high up Mason, a member of Herter Lodge of Brooklyn, No. 698, and also of the Kriegerbund, a German singing society. He was married in 1876 to Miss Clara Hedwick, and his family consists of wife and two children, Hedwick and Martha.

ABRAHAM MAZE, of Tappan, a representative New York business man, of Scotch Covenanter ancestry, came into Rockland county to reside in the spring of 1893. He became much attached to this locality during his summer holidays, which he spent here when a boy. He then became widely acquainted with the old families of this county. Mr. Maze now occupies the greater portion of the year a fine old homestead situated within a half mile of the '76 House of Revolutionary fame at Tappan. He was born in New York city July 8th, 1838. After leaving school, when only twelve years of age, he entered the employ of the Haddon Express Company, which afterwards became known throughout the country as the Adams Express Company. After a period he established himself in the marketing business in New York, which he conducted for thirty years and then retired from active business operations. During his younger days Mr. Maze was actively interested in the New York fire department and is now an exempt fireman. He is also a member of Greenpoint Lodge, No. 403, F. and A. M., and of the old Dutch Reformed Church of Tappan, in which he has filled all offices, such as deacon, elder, trustee, etc. Mr. Maze has been twice married and has one child, a son, Montgomery M. Maze, born in 1863, who is a graduate of the New York College. Montgomery M. Maze is a very enterprising and successful New York business man. He is lessee and manager of the Grand Central Palace of New York and resides at 10 West 88th street. His wife was formerly Miss Celia Fay.

JAMES MORRISSEY was born at Grassy Point, Rockland county, N. Y., in 1860. His father, James Morrissey, Sr., who died in 1887, established the mercantile and brick manufacturing business now managed by the subject of this sketch. James Morrissey, Sr., left four sons, of whom James is the eldest and the practical head of the business, which consists of two brick yards, a general store and a coal yard. Mr. Morrissey is a Knight of Columbus and in 1901 was married to Miss Maggie Ducey.

ALBERT S. COLLIGNON was born in New Jersey. He took possession of the old '76 House, "famed in history as the prison place of Major Andre," August 15th, 1901, and in it now conducts a hotel and reception place for tourists and all who desire to visit this renowned neighborhood. Within a few hundred yards is also situated the hill upon which Andre was executed. A monument now marks the spot, and in an opposite direction, within a quarter of a mile, stands Washington's Headquarters at Tappan. Mr. Collignon's family are celebrated hotel keepers, having conducted hotels in Pearl River, Sparkill, Bergen Fields, West Nyack, Westwood and Orangeburg. He has in the '76 House a famous place and is doing an excellent business, especially during the summer season. Old relics, such as the table upon which Andre's death warrant was signed, old fireplaces, etc., are preserved. A fine engraving of the '76 House as it now appears is in this work.

THOMAS ROWAN was born in Haverstraw. He attended school there and in early life learned the plumbing and roofing business, in which he was engaged up to the time of the great blizzard of 1888. During that year the firm of Bennett, Rowan & Scott was formed, for the purpose of manufacturing brick, in which firm Mr. Rowan was a partner. Upon the death of Mr. Scott, in 1896, the old firm was dissolved and a new one established, consisting of Mrs. C. L. Scott and Thomas Rowan, under the firm name of Rowan & Scott, which is still doing business. The capacity of the firm's yard is 21,000,000 brick per season, and they have by modern business methods succeeded in turning out productions that are unexcelled in the market. The firm of Rowan & Scott was the first to make a success of oil burning. This firm has an excellent plant, fitted up with special machinery and appliances for burning brick, together with a large tank for the storage of oil, which will

hold nearly a million gallons. Mr. Rowan has been prominently identified with local affairs, having served as Assessor for six years, and as a member of the Board of Education. He is also a member of the Knights of Columbus and was long connected with the Haverstraw fire department. His wife was Miss Helen Cahill and their family consists of six children: Mamie, Ella, Clara, Agnes, Joseph and Thomas.

FRED BOOTH, Secretary and Superintendent of the Firth Carpet Company, at Firtheliffe, N. Y., is a native of Yorkshire, England. He was born February 16th, 1860, educated in the public schools and entered at an early age the employ of Messrs. Firth, in whose service he has worked through all grades, and now occupies the most important position of Secretary and Superintendent of the American branch. F. F. Firth & Sons (Limited), of England, are extensive carpet manufacturers. They inaugurated an American branch in 1884 at Philadelphia and in 1886 purchased the grounds and one or two small buildings at Old Cornwall. They have since erected a magnificent plant there, in which they employ four hundred hands and they have had the name of the village changed to Firtheliffe. Mr. Booth was appointed manager in 1888. The output of this plant is about 2,000,000 yards of tapestry and Brussels carpet and rugs per year. A number of clerks and book-keepers are busy keeping account of the enormous business done and the goods reach all parts of this country. Fred Booth is a member of the Protestant Episcopal Church. His family consists of wife, formerly Lydia Hirst, of England, and three children: Annie, born 1887; Mar-iam R., born 1892, and Frances Elmer, born 1897. Vigilant, energetic and faithful, Mr. Booth is a valuable man in any community and is certainly the architect of his own fortune.

PATRICK BROPHY was born July 16, 1840. He came to Grassy Point as an employee of Brewster J. Allison in 1854, when but a youth and by hard work and close methods, he had saved up sufficient means to go into business for himself. He now conducts a yard at Grassy Point capable of turning out six million brick per season, and which furnishes employment to a considerable number of men. Mr. Brophy is a thorough business man and a liberal and progressive citizen. He is a trustee of St. Joseph's Church at Grassy Point and is always ready to do his part towards forwarding any good project. His family consists of

wife, formerly Miss Annie Morrissey, and nine children, viz.: Julia, a Sister of Charity; Martin, Mary, James, John, Katie, Patrick, Annie and Michael Francis.

LOUIS DILLER, proprietor of the Putnam Hotel at Highland Falls, N. Y., is a native of Alsace-Lorraine, where he was born in 1863. He came to America in 1886, and secured work at his trade as a contracting mason until 1895, when he secured possession of his present business. Mr. Diller was married, April 26th, 1893, to Kate Pifer, and they have a family of three children: Rose, Mary and Lucy. Louis Diller is a wide-awake business man and is very prosperous.

ROBERT KYLE ARMSTRONG, Highland Falls, N. Y., undoubtedly the most famous breeder and trainer of dogs living, was born in the south of England of Scotch parentage, in 1867. He early evinced those traits, which have since won him renown upon two continents, for when but a child he secured a shepherd dog and so cleverly trained it that at a celebrated exhibition in England he won the first prize over some of the finest stock in the country. With increasing years he rapidly acquired renown as a dog trainer, and soon had charge of some of the most noted kennels of England. He had the Prince of Wales' kennel, also those of the Duke of Clarence, Lord Downe, the Grand Duke of Hesse Darmstadt and others under his care. In 1891 he came to America and took charge of J. P. Morgan's kennels at Highland Falls, N. Y. Here R. K. Armstrong can be seen surrounded by his favorite breed (the Scotch collies), and nowhere else in the world can such fine canines of this kind be found. He has collies ranging in price from \$1,000 to \$8,000, and a large number of them at that. Collies which have carried off all the leading prizes at the exhibitions in New York, Chicago, St. Louis, Philadelphia, Detroit, etc., generally making a clean sweep of every prize in the class. During one season Mr. Armstrong took 63 first prizes out of a possible 64 and 48 of the second prizes as well. Many of these fine dogs have been bred by him, and in this he has secured most wonderful results in color and style. Robert Kyle Armstrong is in direct descent from the old border cattle dealers renowned in history as The Armstrongs, who seldom lost a battle or a chance at their neighbors' fat herds; such was the custom of the times in which they lived and flourished. They were "promoters" in

their day and generation. His father, Edward Armstrong, was also a noted trainer of dogs and is well known throughout England. Robert Kyle Armstrong is a very courteous and pleasant man to meet, he loves his pets; you can see it in the sparkle of his eyes when he is pointing out to you some particular favorite. There is one sagacious old fellow who, when released from his quarters in the kennel, makes a bee line for the front veranda of J. Pierpont Morgan's home, eagerly looking for the great financier. If he can find Mr. Morgan he is happy and nothing will induce him to leave but a direct command from his master. Robert Kyle Armstrong is identified with the Masonic brotherhood, 236, Phelps-town; with the Elks, 247, Newburgh, and the K. of P., 305, Highland Falls.

THE NEW YORK MILITARY ACADEMY. This Academy is situated three-fourths of a mile from the village of Cornwall-on-Hudson and one-half of a mile from the Hudson river on a beautiful estate of twenty-nine acres, elevated, level and under a high state of cultivation. There are upon the Academy grounds sloping and well kept lawns, fine old trees, two beautiful athletic fields, tennis courts and ball grounds. The buildings of the Academy are handsome, ample, well constructed, lighted by electricity, heated by steam and supplied with an abundance of pure water from a spring-fed reservoir high in the mountains. The equipment of the school includes a library of more than five thousand volumes, modern chemical and physical laboratories, manual training shops, studios, etc. As a seat of learning the New York Military Academy is a chartered school of the University of the State of New York and is officially classed as an Academy, the highest grade of preparatory schools. The discipline is distinctly military and the Academy is non-sectarian. It has been for many years an unusually successful school, with an attendance limited only by the capacity of the buildings. Bard Hall, the junior department, is for boys under fourteen years of age and is practically a separate school with its own buildings, equipment and grounds. The Academic Department receives boys from fourteen to twenty-one years of age and offers in addition to the usual college preparatory courses a Practical Course which includes instruction in Manual Training, Mechanical Drawing, Art, the Sciences, etc. The Academy is represented by its graduates in nearly all the larger schools and

universities of the country, as well as in the professions and business life. The faculty, with Sebastian C. Jones, C. E., Superintendent, includes some of the best known and most successful educators of the State. The United States Government details to the Institution an officer of the Army who acts as Professor of Military Science and Tactics and directs the military work of the Institution.

JAMES A. LEE, County Engineer of Rockland county, was born in England, March 31, 1861. He was very thoroughly educated for his profession, first at preparatory schools, and the South Kensington Science and Art School, and finally graduated from Trinity College, London. In 1883 Mr. Lee came to Canada under engagement with the engineering department of the Canadian Government, by whom he was sent west to survey town lines, etc. When the Canada Pacific R. R. was under construction he was appointed assistant engineer of that railroad, and upon its completion, in 1888, came to Congers to lay out the town. Since then he has surveyed and laid out numerous important villages and localities, such as Euclid, N. J., Demarest, N. J., Midway, Mass., etc., etc. He ran for State Engineer on the Bryan ticket in 1899, and with the rest of the ticket was defeated that year. His family consists of wife, formerly Miss Mary J. T. Davidson, daughter of Alexander Davidson, of Inverness, Scotland, hereditary chief of the Davidson clan. Mr. Lee has three children living: John Alexander, Edith Maud Ellen and Douglas Grant Vincent. He lost one boy, James Alfred, Jr. Mr. Lee was appointed County Engineer of Rockland county in 1899. He is organist of the R. C. Church of Congers.

H. A. HICKS was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., October 7th, 1872. He attended the Brooklyn schools and after leaving school took charge of a newspaper route for his father, who was an extensive dealer in stationery and printing. This our subject conducted for twelve years. In the meantime his father had purchased a farm at Valley Cottage, and in 1890 they moved on to it. In 1898 on Thanksgiving evening, Mr. Hicks was married to Maggie Tremper. On the 14th of April, 1901, Mr. Hicks, Sr., died. He had conducted a store at Valley Cottage for some years prior to his death. This is now conducted by his widow, who is also Postmistress of Valley Cottage, having been appointed to that office

in 1901. Mr. Hicks deals in coal and is engaged in heavy carting and farming. He is a thoroughly upright and reliable citizen in every sense.

GEORGE ESSLINGER was born in the city of Newark, N. J., June 4th, 1864. His first practical ideas of engineering were secured upon steamboats upon which he was employed in the engineering department for five or six years. He was then employed by the Weehawken Elevator Company for a period of three years and for the following fourteen years was engineer for the Hudson Electric Light Company. In 1900 he accepted a responsible position with the Rockland Light and Power Company of Orangeburg, N. Y. On June 15th, 1902, he resigned his position as General Manager of repair shops of the Rockland Electric Light Company and accepted a position with the Charles E. Dustin Company, manufacturers of engines and motors, as General Manager for their entire plant at Orangeburg. He was married in 1884 to Mary E. McGuire. He is a member of the National Engineers' Association, No. 5, and is a very competent, faithful and reliable engineer, and is highly regarded wherever known.

OSCAR D. BANTA was born in Tappan September 22d, 1880. He attended the public schools, after leaving which he learned the plumbing trade. Our subject early exhibited mechanical and inventive skill, and soon observing that there was considerable demand for exercising devices, commenced manufacturing specialties in a small way. His productions immediately "took" with the public, and in 1900 he erected a neat and convenient factory and plant in Sparkill, costing several thousand dollars, in which he produces his special line of exercising apparatus in considerable quantities. He supplies such prominent houses as Siegel, Cooper & Co., and many others in New York, besides having agents throughout the State. Mr. Banta has achieved remarkable success for so young a man and we predict a very successful future for him in his business.

SCHNEIDER & NOE, Congers, N. Y. Both members of this enterprising firm of florists are natives of Germany. They established the business about ten years ago and have occupied their present eligible premises for the past four years. They grow carnations and pinks exclusively and they ship their productions to New York city. Mr. Schnei-

der's family consists of wife, formerly Miss Louisa Schiller, and three children: Rose, Tillie and John. Mr. Schneider belongs to the organization of Red Men. Mr. Noe's wife was Miss Freda Schiller. The greenhouses owned by this firm cover a number of lots and have 8,000 square feet of glass. They are the most extensive greenhouses in this vicinity. Both of the gentlemen are highly respected as straightforward business men and good citizens.

ALEXANDER YOUNG was born at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., October 17, 1879. When an infant his parents removed to West Haverstraw, their former home, and where the family have since resided. His education was acquired in the schools of that place, after which he entered the employ of his father, who for years had conducted one of the leading grocery stores in West Haverstraw. Alexander Young, Sr., was born in West Haverstraw and with the exception of a short residence in Poughkeepsie, always lived there. He married Anna Polhemus, of Poughkeepsie. Their family consisted of three children: Alexander, Jr., William P. and Harry T. Mrs. Young died in May, 1894, and Alexander Young, Sr., died in May, 1900. Alexander Young, the subject of this sketch, as administrator of his father's estate, has demonstrated his executive ability in the care and management of the estate, and has shown marked ability in the commercial field. He is an energetic, enterprising, successful young business man, who with the assistance of his two brothers, William and Harry, conduct the business which their father started, and have, to a great extent, added to their patronage and widened their field of operations.

WILLIAM H. DRAUDT. Every resident of Jones's Point and the majority of the people of the surrounding country are well acquainted with the proprietor of the principal mercantile establishment at that place. His affability and uprightness have made him an influential man in his community and brought to him a large part of the trade of the section. The Draudt family originated in Germany. The father of our subject, George Draudt, who was born in that country, emigrated to America at the age of about eighteen years, and from that time made his home in Rockland county, his death occurring in Tomkins Cove. Very soon after his arrival he entered the employ of the Tomkins Cove Stone Company, and such was his efficiency and reliability that he was

retained in their employ as foreman for more than fifty years. He was a trustworthy man and successful in superintending workmen. His widow, Mary Jane (Lent) Draudt, still makes her home in Tomkins Cove. Of their family of three sons and three daughters, we note the following: William H., our subject, is the eldest; George is weigh-master of the Tomkins Cove Stone Company; Susan L. is the wife of James A. DeGroat; Caroline married Rev. R. S. Hulsart, and lives in Pittsburgh, Pa.; John is a resident of Nyack, and Sidonia resides at Tarrytown. In the village of Tomkins Cove, where he was born July 19, 1851, W. H. Draudt was reared to manhood, and there he attended the common schools. He was a diligent student and became so proficient that he was fitted for the position of instructor. For a time he was assistant in the school that he had previously attended, and subsequently he taught in the Suffern schools for two years. He then went to New York city and engaged with John W. Avery in a store where were kept all kinds of furnishings for pilots. During the seven years he was employed there he made himself valuable to his employer, whose business he succeeded in enlarging considerably. When James A. DeGroat wished to secure the services of some one of ability and honesty to whom he could look for active assistance in the management of his increasing business in gravel, cobbles and sand, he sought Mr. Draudt, but the latter, having a good position, at first refused to make a change. After having been importuned several times, however, he consented to accept the offer and came to Jones's Point, where he took a position as book-keeper and general manager for Mr. DeGroat. Subsequently he purchased the latter's general store business, which he has since conducted, having a large trade among the people of this locality. He still continues to keep books for Mr. DeGroat, and is also the Postmaster for the village. For a time after entering the employ of Mr. DeGroat Mr. Draudt lived in Tomkins Cove, but now makes his home in Jones's Point. He is married, his wife being Ophelia, daughter of Mr. John Sullivan, of Haverstraw. In political matters he gives his allegiance to the Republican party, and is interested in local public affairs. Socially he is connected with Cortlandt Lodge, No. 6, I. O. O. F., at Peekskill, and Mt. Ararat Encampment, No. 9, of Peekskill, and Iona Lodge, No. 128, K. of P., of Haverstraw.

WILLIAM L. SLOAT was born in the old Sloat homestead, Sloatsburg, June 24, 1824. He received a fair education in the schools of his native village and in Ramapo. Stephen Sloat, the father of our subject, was an active man of affairs, a prominent farmer and a widely known manufacturer. He came here upon the death of his father, from Paramas, N. J., where he conducted a woolen mill for many years. His father, Isaac, had accumulated a considerable estate at Sloatsburg, and it is said was an heir to an immensely valuable estate, including land in New York, on which Trinity Church now stands. Soon after his return to Sloatsburg (his birth place) Stephen Sloat erected a grist mill at that place, which he conducted for a time, and shortly thereafter he, with Dr. Westervelt, of Staten Island, formed a co-partnership with Jacob Sloat, brother of Stephen, and others, for the purpose of manufacturing cotton twine. This establishment ultimately grew to large proportions, giving employment to from seventy to eighty hands the year round. The success of the twine factory was undoubtedly due, to a great extent, to the skillful management of William L. Sloat, our subject, who, as manager of the concern, succeeded, in the five years in which the mill was in operation, in placing it upon a solid financial basis. This mill ranked highly among the manufacturing institutions in southeastern New York. Of the owners of this mill Stephen Sloat died in 1861 and his brother Jacob in 1865. For a number of years succeeding his connection with the twine manufactory our subject was engaged in farming on land he purchased near Suffern. He then returned to Sloatsburg and purchased the general store owned by the Sloatsburg Manufacturing Company, which he conducted for about eighteen years, following which he erected a new store building, to which he removed his stock of goods and established his son there as proprietor. He then purchased the old homestead in which he resides to-day. September 21st, 1851, he was united in marriage with Mary A. Whritenour, of Sloatsburg, who died December 17th, 1888, leaving two children, Fred, now in Paterson, N. J., and Emeline, who died March 3d, 1895. Mr. Sloat took for his second wife Mary E. Vanderhoff, of Sloatsburg. They were married December 18th, 1901.

MEYER BAER is a native of New York city, born November, 1866, attended the public schools there until about fifteen years of age, when he accepted a position with a large wholesale shirt house in that city.

From the lowest position, that of errand boy, he gradually worked up until finally he became superintendent of the cutting department, a responsible position, requiring a thorough knowledge of the entire business, which his practical experience, gained in different branches of the work, amply fitted him for. He occupied the position until 1888, when he was tendered a government position in the New York post office, from which he resigned after serving some four years. In 1892 he accepted the position of Superintendent of the two wholesale houses in New York and Brooklyn for a large Brooklyn liquor firm. After remaining with this firm for two years, he opened a wholesale liquor establishment of his own in Brooklyn, which he conducted successfully until 1898, when he removed to Nyack and established a similar business here. The business has grown and prospered and is to-day one of the solid concerns of the city. Mr. Baer is Past Grand of the I. O. O. F. and Past Chancellor Commander of Knights of Pythias, and is also a member of F. S. of I. His family consists of wife, formerly Gertrude Loeroy, of New York city, and one child, a son, Lawrence Henry, born in March, 1899.

HARRY E. ELSWORTH is a native of Clarkstown, born November 2, 1855, and when five years of age his parents moved to Monsey. He attended the public school of Monsey, a private school of Prof. Littebrant of Spring Valley and the Sparkill Institute of Sparkill, N. Y. In 1875 he went to New York and took a position as clerk in an insurance broker's office, which position he held until the spring of 1884, when he returned to Monsey to assist his father in his duties as Postmaster. In 1889 he succeeded his father as Postmaster, retaining that office during the administration of President Harrison, and was again appointed under the administration of President McKinley and holds the office at the present time, and is also assistant agent for the Erie Railroad at Monsey. His father, Samuel G. Elsworth, was a native of Rockland county and followed the trade of wheelwright at Knapp's Corners until 1861, when he came to Monsey and opened a retail grocery. His first appointment as Postmaster came in the early fifties at what was then called Nyack Turnpike. This office has been long since discontinued. He was Postmaster at Monsey for more than twenty years. Harry E. Elsworth has been a member of the Board of

Education, Foreman and Secretary of the Brewer Fire Engine Company No. 1, of Monsey, and a member of Amity Lodge of Odd Fellows at Spring Valley.

JOHN J. HALEY was born in New York June 6th, 1860. His education was acquired in the public schools of that city and at Packard's Commercial College, from which he graduated in 1877. In 1885 Mr. Haley went west and for five years ranched on the Star Bar B. Range, in the Milk River district of Montana. After leaving the ranch he became interested in oil fields at McDonalds, Ohio, where he remained about a year; then he sold his interests and for a time was located in Pittsburgh. He next accepted a position as assistant agent for the Erie Railroad and was stationed at Greycourt, N. Y. From there he was transferred to Ridgewood, N. J., where he remained some time. After a few years' service in this capacity at various points along the company's line, he was finally, in 1896, assigned to the position of Station Agent at Ramapo, in Rockland county, which he now holds. Since 1889 Mr. Haley has also been the Postmaster of the village. He is a member of Onward Lodge, I. O. O. F., of Suffern. In 1893 Mr. Haley was united in marriage with Anna May Allison of Middletown, N. Y., and they have one child, Juliet M.

EDWARD C. RIPLEY was born September 25th, 1857, at St. John's, Canada, and attended the public schools of that place until twelve years of age, when he, with his parents, removed to North Adams, Mass. He attended the schools of the latter place until about seventeen years of age, and then entered the employ of the James Hunter Machine Co., of North Adams, where he learned the hardware business, remaining with this firm some three years. He then accepted a position with the Troy and Greenfield R. R. and Hoosic Tunnel, where he had charge of the supply department at North Adams. He remained with this company seven years; severing his connection with the company he then opened a retail grocery in North Adams, and after conducting this establishment a few months, he sold out to advantage. In 1889 he received an offer from the South Atlantic and Ohio R. R. Co., of a clerkship in their Bristol, Tennessee, office. He accepted this position but in three months from that time he came to Hillburn and took charge of the shipping department of the Ramapo Iron Works, which position he now

holds. October 21st, 1885, he was married to Miss Minnie L. Darling, of North Adams, Mass. Mr. Ripley is the Postmaster of the village of Hillburn, having been appointed to that office December 8th, 1900. He has served as Excise Commissioner for the town of Ramapo, is a member of Lafayette Lodge, F. and A. M., of North Adams, and of Eureka Chapter, R. A. M., of Suffern, and is also a member of Terry Council, F. and A. M., of Paterson, N. J. He is a member of Hudson River Commandery, Knights Templar, of Newburgh, and of Mecca Temple, Mystic Shrine, of New York, and is one of the Board of Directors of the Ramapo Building and Loan Association of Suffern, N. Y. His father, E. H. Ripley, spent the early years of his life at St. John's Canada, where for many years he owned and operated a custom carding mill. He is now living a retired life in North Adams.

ARTHUR W. DUTCHER, of Haverstraw, N. Y., was born at that place February 29th, 1854. His education was obtained in the schools of Haverstraw, both public and private and the old Haverstraw Academy. After leaving school, at the age of sixteen, he was employed for some two or three years in a fruit store. He then took up his studies again, pursuing them for a year or two in a private school. The two years following he assisted his father, who at that time operated a stage line out of Haverstraw. After a few years employment at various occupations, accumulating meanwhile a small capital and a fund of practical experience, he purchased, on September 1st, 1889, the furniture business of Leonard Cooper, of Haverstraw. This business he is conducting to-day and in connection therewith he also conducts an undertaking establishment, which he started in February, 1897. Mr. Dutcher is a thorough, practical, business man. His business is in a flourishing condition, is constantly increasing in volume, and is withal a credit to the energy and business accumen of the owner. June 28, 1882, he married Kezia Ida Brooks, of Philadelphia, daughter of George W. Brooks, of that city. They have had seven children, of whom six are living: Harvey A., George B., Lulu M., Blanch M., Walter (dead), Leonard C. and Ida K. Mr. Dutcher is Justice of the Peace, having been elected to that office in 1898, on the Republican ticket, and was the only candidate elected on the Republican ticket at that time.

GEORGE E. KNAPP was born at Stony Point, N. Y., January 18, 1858. His education was obtained in the public schools of New York, from which he was graduated in 1873. After taking a course in the Pennsylvania Normal School, he began teaching and from 1877 to 1887 taught in the public schools of Sloatsburg and Stony Point. In 1887 he was elected School Commissioner for Rockland county and served one term of three years very creditably. He was also at this time elected Justice of the Peace, which office he filled for eight years. In 1897 Mr. Knapp was appointed Deputy County Treasurer under Treasurer John M. Hasbrouck, remaining in that office until the expiration of the term, in 1900, and in August, 1901, upon the death of Agent H. M. Babcock, he was appointed Agent for the North River Steamboat Company at Haverstraw, which office he now occupies. In 1878 Mr. Knapp married Emma Christie, daughter of John D. Christie, of Haverstraw. They have one son, Frank F., now with the Continental Jewel Filtration Company of New York as stenographer. Mr. Knapp's father, George Knapp, was a native of Rockland county, as was also his ancestors for a considerable time previous to the Revolutionary period. Coming from Connecticut, where this branch of the Knapp family originally settled, (they came here about the middle of the seventeenth century). George Knapp, Sr., was born at Stony Point in 1816 and died in 1900. His wife, Mary Thiell, was a granddaughter of John Thiell, who previous to 1800 settled on land not far from Haverstraw on the New Jersey and New York Railroad, embracing one thousand acres, and including what is now the village of Thiells. This property has since passed out of the hands of the family. Mary Thiell Knapp died in 1886, aged sixty-seven years.

STEPHEN J. DE BAUN was born at Middletown, N. Y., November 20, 1855. His education was obtained at the Mountain Institute at Haverstraw, where his parents removed shortly after his birth. The first two or three years after leaving school he passed as clerk in a Haverstraw grocery. He then took a position as errand boy with the National Bank of Haverstraw, in 1872, one year following the organization of the bank, and has since then been identified with this bank, holding the various positions from the lowest to that of cashier, which he now occupies. It is safe to say that no man in Haverstraw holds, to a greater extent, the esteem and confidence of the people, than does Mr. DeBaun,

who has for so long a time served faithfully and well the concern in which he now holds so responsible a position. His family consists of his wife, formerly Adelaide Milburn, daughter of Isaac Milburn, of Haverstraw, to whom he was married in 1884, and they have four children: Milburn, the eldest, is with the Borden Condensed Milk Company of New York; Stephen J., Jr., Arthur Wilson and Mary Adelaide are at home. His father, Garrett DeBaun, was born in Rockland county, near Suffern. His mother was Elizabeth Johnson, daughter of Stephen Johnson, of Ramapo. They have for years resided in Haverstraw, where Mr. DeBaun is engaged in the retail confectionery business. They recently celebrated their fifty-fourth marriage anniversary.

WILLIAM A. FULTON was born in Rhinebeck, N. Y., and while an infant his parents removed to Nyack. He attended the Nyack public schools. Mr. Fulton was the first Superintendent of Water Works, occupying that position the year following its passing into the control of the city. He is a member in good standing of the I. O. O. F. of Nyack.

LOUIS ECKSTEIN was born June 24, 1846, in the village of Sterndorf, Hessian Darmstadt, Germany. At the age of ten he came with his parents to America, landing in New York June 23, 1856. They came directly to Haverstraw the following day, where Mr. Eckstein has since resided and where his parents ended their days. Shortly after their arrival in Haverstraw, Louis Eckstein obtained employment in a cigar manufactory, where he learned the tobacco business in all its branches. Mr. Eckstein established his present business at 37 Main street, Haverstraw, N. Y., August 3, 1871, and has continued in the same business at the same location thirty-one years, making him one of three of the oldest merchants on Main street, in that place. In 1875 he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Katie Baier, daughter of Peter and Caroline Baier of Brooklyn, N. Y. There have been born to them four children, two of whom, Charles and Cyrillus, died, each at the age of eleven months. The two living are Bertha, born June 26, 1879, and Clarence L., born June 15, 1892. Michael Eckstein, the father of Louis, died about four years ago, aged 79 years. His wife, Louis Eckstein's mother, died in 1876, aged 56 years. Mrs. Eckstein's father, Peter Baier, died in Brooklyn many years ago, and was soon followed

by his wife, who was at one time a well known lady physician of Brooklyn. Mr. Eckstein is a charter member of the Iona Lodge, Knights of Pythias. He, with Alonzo Bedell, of Haverstraw, were the two prime movers in the establishing of this lodge, and have, since its organization, been to a considerable extent responsible for its present excellent standing as a lodge. He is also a charter member of the D. O. H., and is an exempt fireman.

FRANK B. PALMER was born in Green county, New York, July 31st, 1852. He attended the schools in the neighborhood, the Coxsackie Academy and the Fort Edward Institute, graduating from the latter institution in 1868. His business experience began as a clerk in a Brooklyn drug store, where he remained six years. He then took a similar position in a Glen Cove, L. I., drug store, and in four years purchased the business, which he conducted about ten years, sold out and returned to Brooklyn. There he opened a drug store and ran it for a time and also opened and conducted a drug store in New York, both of which he finally sold and spent the following five or six years in traveling for a New York drug house. In July, 1899, he came to Spring Valley and embarked in the drug business at his present location. In 1879 he married Ella Hunt, of Glen Cove, L. I., who died in 1889. They had four children: Everett R., Warren, Melville and Jeanette. Mr. Palmer married a second time in 1899, May E. Spencer, of Brooklyn, N. Y. Mr. Palmer is a member of the Royal Arcanum. His father, Garrison Palmer, was a native of Greene county, N. Y., whose occupation through life was farming and in later years he supplied the New York market with large quantities of ice. He was also a prominent factor in local politics. His death occurred in 1896, and his wife, Rebecca Powell Palmer, died in 1890.

DIEDRICH A. HEIDGERD is a native of Germany, having been born at Manslage, Province of Hanover, September 22, 1843. In 1857 he left his native land for America, arriving in New York on the 28th of August of that year. He soon secured a clerkship in a woolen jobbing house located at the corner of William and Ann streets, New York. He remained with this concern ten years, and in 1868 in company with his brother William established the well known firm of D & W. Heidgerd, jobbers in woolens, at 274 Canal street, New York. This

firm continued in business until 1880, when it was dissolved by mutual consent. Shortly after this Mr. Heidgerd, owing to ill health, removed to Monsey, Rockland county, where, in the course of time, he purchased four or five hundred acres of land, which he has improved to such an extent that it is today one of the model stock farms of Rockland county, beautifully located, with commodious buildings and lying as it does partly within the limits of the village of Monsey, is an object of gratification and pride to the citizens as well as to its owner. Mr. Heidgerd has made many extensive improvements of a public nature at his own expense in the neighborhood, among which may be mentioned the building of several miles of highway, and the reclaiming of unsanitary lands. Mr. Heidgerd is in the widest sense a public spirited citizen, having contributed largely to the growth and advancement of both Monsey and Spring Valley, and was instrumental in many ways in making Monsey the thriving village that it is to-day. Mr. Heidgerd married in 1876 Anna Maria Wissmau, also of Hanover, and they have two sons surviving, Diedrich G., aged 22, and Arnold, aged 16.

CHARLES C. VAN BUSKIRK was born in Bergen county, N. J., January 28th, 1864. He attended the schools in the vicinity of his home and at Monsey until thirteen years of age, when his parents removed to Spring Valley. In 1877 he, with Henry Zabriskie, went to New York and opened a general commission store on Jay street. They conducted this establishment three years, when Mr. VanBuskirk sold his interest to his partner and returned to Spring Valley. June 25th, 1898, he was united in marriage with Mrs. Loretta Person Wood, daughter of Matthew Person, of Spring Valley. She has one child, Miss Irene Wood. At the November election of 1901, Mr. VanBuskirk was elected Constable of Rockland county on the Republican ticket, and in the spring of 1902 was appointed Deputy Sheriff by Sheriff Weiant. His father, John D. Van Buskirk, was born at Saddle River, N. J., January 25th, 1839. His life was devoted to agricultural pursuits at Saddle River until the later years, when he lived in retirement at Spring Valley until his death, November 6th, 1893. His wife, Mrs. Anna DeRonde Van Buskirk, was a daughter of Henry DeRonde, of Spring Valley. She was born January 24th, 1842, and died April 15th, 1888. They had four children: Margaret, wife of Charles T. Seaman,

of Spring Valley; Christina, wife of Irving Bogert, of Ridgewood, N. J.; Charles C. Van Buskirk and Miss Gertrude Van Buskirk.

SAMUEL BLANCHARD, of Monsey, was born at Hempstead, N. Y., February 18th, 1855. His education was acquired in the Hempstead schools. At seventeen years of age he went to Highland Falls and took up the blacksmith trade with his uncle, Samuel Brooks, which he followed for six years. He then went to West Point, leased a farm near that place, and in connection with the work of the farm, did a general blacksmithing business. He remained there two years, and in the early spring of 1880 removed with his family to Monsey. Here he purchased the carriage manufactory of Levi Sherwood, which he has rebuilt and otherwise materially improved. In addition to a general jobbing business Mr. Blanchard manufactures carriages and light wagons, and his repository is always well stocked with vehicles of every description. Mr. Blanchard has been a trustee of the Board of Education for several terms and also one of the directors of the Orangeburg Agricultural and Horticultural Society, and he has been at different periods Vice-President of the Spring Valley and also of the New City Agricultural Societies. In 1879 he married Ella Van Voorhees, daughter of Samuel Van Voorhees, of Highland Falls. She died in February, 1882, leaving two children, Howard and Frederick. In 1886 Mr. Blanchard took for his second wife Clara Gurnee, daughter of John J. Gurnee, of Monsey, N. Y. They have four children, George H., Elwood P., Clifford and Edna May. Mr. Blanchard's business establishment comprises four large buildings, namely, a carriage shop, a blacksmith shop, a paint shop and a carriage repository, and is the largest business of the kind in the county. His fine residence was formerly the home of Mr. D. A. Heidgerd and he also owns considerable other real estate in the town. The parents of Mr. Blanchard were James and Eliza Brooks Blanchard, both natives of Rockland county. The father was a prominent farmer near Spring Valley and also a large owner of woodlands in the town of Haverstraw. He died at the age of 65, leaving his wife and the following sons and daughters: Emma; Catherine, married James Serven of Hempstead; Mary, married Brewster Stalter, of Stony Point; John, who married Lavina Conklin, of Viola; Samuel, who married as above; Oliver, who married Virginia Ames of Jersey City; Warren, who married Anna

Blauvelt, of Spring Valley; Sarah, married Everett A. Cooper of Suffern, and James.

PETER VAN HOUTEN was born in Rockland county, near Spring Valley, November 8th, 1837. His education was obtained in the public schools of Spring Valley and he also attended the Grove street school, New York. When sixteen years of age he left school and for the two years following assisted his father on the farm. In 1855 he went to Haverstraw, where he began learning the carpenter's trade, which he followed at Haverstraw and Spring Valley for about five years. In 1861 he opened a retail meat market in Spring Valley and followed this business for some two years, when he took the position of foreman of the distillery farm located near Spring Valley, which he managed two years. In 1877 he removed to Monsey and opened a hotel, which he has since successfully conducted. In 1865 he was united in marriage with Adeline Sherwood, daughter of Levi Sherwood, of Monsey. They have four children: Charles, who lives at Englewood, N. J.; Martha, married to Robert Safford, of New York; John L., now living at Union Hill, N. J., and Glode R., of Monsey. Mr. Van Houten has been town collector for the past six years.

JOHN R. VAN WYCK, a well to do and thrifty farmer of Rockland county, has a splendid tract of land eighty acres in extent, which lies near Blauvelt, and he is well known as one of the most successful farmers in the vicinity. He was born at Flatbush, L. I., June 26th, 1866, where he attended the public school, and after leaving school followed farming in Long Island up to 1893, when he removed to Rockland county and settled on his present farm near Blauvelt, where he still resides. Mr. Van Wyck was married, January 21st, 1890, to Mary Whittichar, a daughter of James Whittichar, of Canarsie, L. I. Their family consists of three children: Annie, born 1891; Ida, born 1893; and George, born 1895. As a citizen John R. Van Wyck is progressive, able and honorable, and although in no sense of the term an office seeker, is interested in all measures calculated to improve his community. In politics he is a Republican and invariably votes for the candidates of that party. George Van Wyck, father of our subject, was born at Jerico, L. I., and later in life moved to Paxton, Mass., where he follows farming. He has a family of five children, all living, viz.: John (our subject),

Susan, Margaret, George Jr., and Mamie. Susan is married to Louis S. Clapp, farmer, Paxton, Mass.; Margaret is married to John Catherwood, mail carrier, Paxton; George, Jr., is married to Freda Blatz, farming with father; Mamie, single and living at home.

S. S. CARTER, M. D., was born in Venango county, Pennsylvania. He received his preliminary education at Grove City, Pa., and is a graduate of the Grove City College. After teaching school for about four years in Dempseytown, Pa., he entered the Long Island College at Brooklyn, from which he graduated in medicine in 1895. He then settled at Ashland, N. Y., and after practicing there for three years removed to Haverstraw and opened the office which he now occupies. In 1896 Dr. Carter was elected Coroner of Greene county, New York State, and held that office until he tendered his resignation in 1898, upon removing to Haverstraw. He is a member of the New York State Medical Association and the Greene County Medical Society, also a member of the Masons, Odd Fellows and the Independent Order of Foresters. In the short time in which he has been in Haverstraw Dr. Carter has built up a lucrative and constantly increasing practice, which has been accomplished through close application and exceptional skill in his chosen profession.

GEORGE A. LEITNER, M. D., a native of Piermont, attended the public schools of that place until ten years of age, when he entered the St. Joseph's Academy of Medicine at Madison, N. J. At twelve years of age he entered the St. John College at Fordham, N. Y. In 1885, seven years from the time of entering, he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts, and three years later, at the same college, he received the degree of Master of Arts. In March, 1888, he received his medical degree from the Bellevue Medical College. During 1888 and 1889 he served as house physician and surgeon at St. Francis' Hospital, New York, and in 1890 he removed to Piermont and opened his present office. Dr. Leitner has served as Coroner for Rockland county, and has for the past ten years filled the office of Health Officer for the town of Orangetown. He is attending physician for St. Agnes's Orphan Asylum at Sparkill and also St. Joseph's Orphan Asylum at Blauvelt, and is one of the attending physicians of the Nyack Hospital. Dr. Leitner is a learned and successful physician and has a large and constantly growing

practice. He is a member of the Royal Arcanum, the Foresters of America and the Knights of Columbus. In 1894 he married Miss Maud Carrillo, of Grand View, N. Y. Three children have blessed their married life, Cecelia, Charles Bertrand and Elizabeth.

FRANK E. PAGETT, M. D., was born at Spring Valley, May 27, 1873; was educated in the public schools of Spring Valley and also attended Packard's College of New York. At about eighteen years of age he went into the office of McKim, Mead & White, New York architects. He remained with them only a portion of a year and entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York, graduating from there in 1896. The following year he devoted to hospital work. In 1897 he came to Spring Valley and began practicing as a physician and surgeon. In June, 1898, he was united in marriage with Elizabeth M. Pitts, daughter of William R. Pitts, of Haverstraw. They have two children, William Roome Pitts and Lyman Lewis. Dr. Pagett is a member of the county medical society and of the State Medical Association. He is railroad surgeon and member of the Erie R. R. Surgeons' Association, has been the village Health Officer and is now visiting physician to the county house. He is a member of the Spring Valley Lodge of Masons, the Royal Arcanum and the Foresters of America, being court physician to the two latter societies. He is also one of the staff of the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary. His father, Henry L. Pagett, is a native of New York city. In early life he conducted an undertaking establishment in that city, afterward taking up the occupation of painter and decorator, which he followed until some thirty years ago, when he retired from active life and has since resided with his son, the subject of this sketch.

NICHOLAS B. VAN HOUTEN, M. D., was born in Livingston county, N. Y., where he attended public school. He later attended the high school of Mt. Morris and also took private lessons from different professors, perfecting himself in the languages. He then entered Columbia College, taking his degree from the medical department in 1867, after which he went to Brooklyn and took a course in electricity. He studied along these lines for about two years and removed to New City, where he has since lived and practiced as a physician and surgeon. In 1880 he married Miss Matilda Nagle, of New York, who died in the spring of

1884. They had from this union one child, a boy, who died at the age of four years. In 1888 he took for his second wife Miss Ida, daughter of John Smith of New City. Dr. Van Houten is court physician to New City Lodge, Foresters of America. His father, Nicholas Van Houten, was born and raised in Rockland county. His grandfather, Peter Van Houten, settled in the vicinity of Spring Valley in the early part of the eighteenth century on a tract of land which has since, however, passed out of the hands of the family.

JOHN SENGSTACKEN, M. D., is a native of New York city. His parents, of Holland nativity, came to this country in 1846, and for twenty years resided in the metropolis. They then moved to Sullivan county, where they still remain, and are highly respected. Dr. Sengstacken graduated from the University of New York in Medicine in 1889, and practiced his profession as an associate with Dr. W. T. Keeler, in New York for a time. In the same year he came to Stony Point, where he has since most successfully practiced. In 1896 Dr. Sengstacken was elected Coroner and served for one term. He has also served as School Trustee and Health Officer and is the present Secretary of the Rockland County Medical Society. In the spring of 1888 Dr. Sengstacken was married to Florence Couch, a sister of M. H. Couch, former District Attorney of Sullivan county, and a lineal descendant upon the maternal side of the well known Barnum family of Connecticut. Their family consists of two children, Royal F. and Florence B.

CHARLES MC ELROY is a native of Hamburg, N. J. When a child his parents removed to Haverstraw, and then to Ramapo, Rockland county, where they remained until the close of the war. On August 12, 1862, Charles McElroy enlisted as a private in Company B, 161 N. Y. Volunteers. He participated in many notable battles during his three years of service. In the fall of 1862, under General Banks, the famous expedition to New Orleans was accomplished, and from there they went to Baton Rouge and bombarded that city, remaining there until the spring of 1863; then they marched on Port Hudson and besieged the fortifications forty-seven days, until June 8th, when the enemy surrendered. It was a notable victory, this place and Vicksburg being the two vital points of the situation. Their next engagements

were at Cox's plantation, Donnelsonville and at Sabine Pass, being defeated at the latter place. They then started on the Red River campaign, constructing the historical dam that floated the fleet over the rocks at Alexandria, after which took place the engagements at Sabine Cross Roads and Pleasant Hill. Mr. McElroy witnessed the surrender of Fort Morgan at the mouth of Mobile Bay, to Admiral Farragut. In the spring of 1865 they returned to Mobile Bay and besieged Fort Spanish across the river, and also participated in the charge on Fort Blakely, fifteen miles away. After capturing these two points they crossed and took possession of the city of Mobile, which they garrisoned the two months following. They then went to Barancus, Apalachicola, Fla., and Dry Tortugas, where they garrisoned the fort until October 20, 1865, when they were mustered out of service. After the close of the war Mr. McElroy learned the carpenter's trade, and in 1875 established his present business of contracting and building, having a shop well equipped with machinery. His business is located on Railroad avenue, Nyack. He is a member of the Methodist Church and has been on the Board of Trustees for fourteen years continuously, and was largely instrumental in erecting the present Methodist edifice, corner of Broadway and Division avenue. Mr. McElroy married Harriet E. Wadsworth, of Geneva, N. Y., and they have two sons and three daughters: Alonzo, Howard, Grace (who married Calvin M. Powell, of Nyack), Edith and Estelle. The McElroy family came originally from Scotland. Charles McElroy's grandfather, Charles was born in New York city. His son, David, was born in Hamburg, N. J.; married Phoebe Riggs, of Hamburg, who came of an old Dutch family, and they had the following sons and daughters: Elizabeth, Charles, Henry, Mary, Fannie, Anna, Catherine, Harriet, George, James, John and Phoebe.

ROBERT A. WIDENMANN, Haverstraw. The subject of this sketch has had a varied and extensive experience covering four continents. Born in Georgia, he finished his education in a German university from 1865 to '70, and then engaged in active commercial pursuits in New York city. After two years here his house sent him to South America, South Africa and Australia. His health becoming impaired, Mr. Widenmann returned home and shortly afterward engaged extensively in ranching in Central America and Mexico. After regaining his

health he came to Rockland county and engaged in the manufacturing and export business. In 1899 he was elected Managing Director of the Haverstraw Light and Fuel Gas Company, which office he still continues to fill. In a quiet and unostentatious way, Mr. Widenmann has exerted considerable influence upon political affairs, State and National. When a delegate to the Democratic State Convention he was the leader of the opposition to Judge Maynard, which ultimately resulted in Judge Maynard's defeat by 150,000. He was also the father of the Anti-Snap Movement which brought about the nomination of President Cleveland, and also the originator of the Gold Democratic movement in the United States. In 1883 Mr. Widenmann was married to Miss Albertine Lemeke of New York city, and his family consists of two children, Elsie and Adolph.

MORRIS ADLER has been a resident of Haverstraw since 1884, and of this county since 1882. He is engaged in the wholesale liquor business in Haverstraw and is an energetic and progressive business man. In 1889 Henry Adler, his son, served most acceptably as Overseer of the Poor in Rockland county. Henry is identified with local institutions, such as the Odd Fellows, and is a wideawake and successful business man. Morris Adler's family consists of his wife and four children, Henry, Ottilie, Louis and Walter.

WILLIAM J. STEWART was born in Donegal county, Ireland, September 17th, 1864. He received his education in his native place. After leaving school and until eighteen years of age he was employed as clerk in a grocery. In 1882 he decided to come to America, after ascertaining that there was a better opportunity for advancement in this country for an energetic man than in the old. Upon arriving in New York he secured a position with the Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company as salesman and continued in the employ of this company in the above capacity for about five years. He then embarked in the grocery business for himself in Brooklyn. Two years thereafter he sold his Brooklyn business and opened a similar one in Palisades, N. Y., and later opened a branch store at Tappan. Mr. Stewart is an able, wide-awake business man and has achieved a remarkable success during the time he has been in this country. He was married January 1st, 1897, to Eliza, daughter of James Pantang, of Stamford, Conn. They have

two daughters, Kathleen Elizabeth, born December 3rd, 1897, and Emma Margaret, born October 26th, 1899.

GUSTAVE MARNETT is a native of Bavaria, Germany, was born October 21st, 1876. He came to America August 1st, 1892, landing in New York. Previous to coming to America he had learned the baker's trade and upon his arrival here he took up the trade, traveling from city to city, working a short time in each place. In 1900, having tired of this nomadic life, he came to Spring Valley and opened a bakery. He supplies the trade and also runs a retail establishment, where he controls a large share of the village custom. November 7th, 1890, he married Marian Fitzpatrick. They have one child, Katherine. Mr. Marnett is a member of Court No. 340, Foresters of America. His father, John Marnett, who died in 1892, was a tailor by trade, and served with distinction in the Austria and German war of 1866 and the German and French War of 1870-'71.

GEORGE SAAROSY was born in Hungary November 29, 1850. He is a descendant of one of the old families of Austria-Hungary with patents of nobility. His father, Baron George Saarosy, was governor of the northern part of Hungary; Mr. Saarosy is also a baron in his country. Early in life (when but six years of age) he was put in a school, from which he passed into the University of Buda-Pest. After graduating there he entered a military college, from which he graduated with the rank of Lieutenant and received an appointment in the army. After some years of service in the army, he resigned and came to America, to see if he could improve his fortune, for, like many of the nobles of his country, he was financially embarrassed. For a time after arriving in America Mr. Saarosy was not very prosperous, as he had not received a business training. But soon he became conversant with American methods and gradually began to accumulate property. He conducted a farm near Spring Valley for about six years and in 1891 opened a grocery store in the village, which venture proved successful. In 1897 he erected his present block on Main street, where he now conducts the leading grocery store of the village. In 1873 Mr. Saarosy was married to Julia Baroness Saarosy. They have no children.

WILLIAM DIXON YOUNG was born in Viola September 13, 1864. His father was a farmer and store-keeper there, and William attended the local schools and assisted his father until in his seventeenth year, when he went to Newark, N. J., to clerk in a grocery store. After about three years he accepted a position on the Broad street line of horse cars as conductor and later returned to Suffern and started a livery business, which he conducted for two years. Mr. Young then received an appointment in the capital at Albany as clerk for three years, at the expiration of which time he returned to Spring Valley and has since been conducting a livery and engaged in buying and selling stock. Mr. Young is a member of Amity Lodge, No. 192, Odd Fellows, and is one of the auditors for the town of Ramapo. He has served as inspector of elections and is very highly respected wherever known. His family consists of wife, formerly Maggie Goetchius, of Tallmans, and they have one child, a girl named Hazel.

GEORGE W. SUFFERN was born at Haverstraw January 14, 1832. He acquired his education in the schools of that place, together with a course in the Peekskill Business Academy and the Tallman private school. He assisted his father on the farm near Haverstraw. In 1854, he, with William F. Gurnee, established a brick manufacturing plant at Grassy Point. The business was carried on for two years, when Mr. Suffern purchased his partner's interest and conducted the establishment alone the following two years. He then sold out the brick business and returned to Haverstraw to take the management of his father's farm. In 1861 his father died, leaving the farm and other property to his son, George W. He remained on the farm until 1871, when he decided to retire from active life, leased the farm and moved with his family to Spring Valley, where he now resides. February 24th, 1854, he married Elizabeth Gurnee, daughter of William F. Gurnee, of Haverstraw. Mr. Suffern has served as school trustee for Haverstraw, and for seven years was Highway Commissioner in the same town. Since removing to Spring Valley he has held the office of Assessor in the town of Ramapo twenty-one years and is trustee of the Board of Education of Spring Valley. He is a member of Haverstraw Lodge, F. and A. M., and Tappan Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His father, John R. Suffern, was born in Suffern village, being a member of the old Suffern family, from which the village took its

name. He enlisted in the war of 1812, participated in many notable engagements and retired at the close of the war with the rank of Major. In the early years of his life he practiced as a physician in New York city, afterward removing to Garnerville, a suburb of Haverstraw, where he conducted a rolling mill for a number of years. During the later years of his life he lived in retirement on his farm near Haverstraw.

GEORGE GATES is a native of Ossining, N. Y., having lived at that place until eleven years of age, when his parents removed to Yonkers. He received his education at Ossining and Yonkers, graduating from the public schools in the latter city at the age of thirteen and was up to that time the youngest graduate from the Yonkers schools. In 1872 he began as helper in the plumbing business of a New York firm, with whom he remained four years. In 1876 he took a position as engineer in a Norwood, N. J., hotel, and in 1879 accepted a position with the St. Joe Mining Company, as Superintendent of the underground piping in St. Joseph, Mo. His health failing, he was soon obliged to return east, and was appointed supply and ticket agent for the Ontario and Western R. R. Co., with headquarters at Lowden, N. J. He occupied this position until 1883, when he removed to Nyack. Mr. Gates was instrumental in establishing and starting the first electric light plant in Nyack in 1886. In 1888 he opened a plumbing establishment in Nyack which he has since very successfully conducted. He is a member of Rockland Lodge, No. 723, F. and A. M., and of the Mazeppa Engine Company No. 2. He is also a member of the Baptist Church. In 1884 he was married to Emma, daughter of Hiram VanZandt, of Nyack, and their family consists of two boys.

ERASTUS JOHNSON was born near the Johnson homestead at Summit Park, or New Hempstead, January 6th, 1820. His education was acquired in the schools of the vicinity, which he attended until about eighteen years of age. After leaving school he assisted his father on the farm. In 1856 he, together with George Nickerson, entered into partnership and engaged in the manufacture of brick at Rondout, N. Y. In 1847 Mr. Johnson married Elizabeth Raymond, of Westchester county, N. Y., who died in 1848. From this union was born one child, Mary Lucretia, wife of Josiah Conclin. September 28th, 1853, he took for his second wife Fannie L. Brundage, of Westchester county, to whom

was born five children: Elizabeth R., wife of Willard Eckerson, of Spring Valley; Anna D.; Ida L.; and Frederick Merritt. The three latter are unmarried and living at home. Fannie Brundage Johnson, a twin to Frederick, died May 5th, 1874, at the age of ten years. Mr. Johnson has served as Justice of the Peace, Superintendent of the Poor and held the office of Supervisor during 1863 and 1864. During his tenure of this office he acquired considerable prominence in the county as being instrumental in furnishing the town of Ramapo a system whereby the taxpayers were enabled to liquidate the bonded indebtedness much more quickly than the other towns of the county and to do so before the stringency of money values which followed the war and caused such a burden to fall on the taxpayers of other towns that were not so fortunate. Mr. Johnson's grandfather was Gilbert Johnson, born August 28, 1761; married Phoebe, daughter of Elie Gurnee, and died September 15th, 1837, leaving Daniel, Samuel, Stephen, Walter and Hannah, who married John J. Coe. Daniel, born January 2, 1790, married Hannah Coe. He served for twelve years as Justice of the Peace and for a long time was Associate Judge of Rockland county. He also was member of Assembly in 1834-'36, and Presidential elector in 1844. He died February 26th, 1875, leaving one son, Erastus, who inherited the ancestral acres. On his mother's side Mr. Johnson is descended from the Coe family, which has been identified with Rockland county for many generations. The name of Coe is originally English. This family came from England, but it is uncertain whether they first settled in Long Island or in New England. The ancestor who emigrated from England is unknown. Those who removed from Long Island to the old English neighborhood were Samuel and Margaret Coe and several of their children. It was about the year 1734. They moved from Hempstead, L. I., and called their new settlement by the same name, Hempstead. The region was at that time inhabited by Indians, who called it Kakeat, by which name it was long known. The decided part the Coes took in the cause of Independence will always rank them among the first of true Americans.

ROBERT ROCKWELL FELTER, M. D., was born at Rockland Lake December 22d, 1855. He attended the public school until fifteen years of age, when he entered the grocery store of Thomas H. Woodcock. In 1874, after three years of service, he entered Wyoming Sem-

inary, Kingston, Pa. He studied there for nearly a year and upon his return home he became an apprentice in his father's wheelwright shop. After he had learned the trade of wagon building, and in 1877, he entered the State Normal College at Albany, N. Y., graduating in 1880. During his course he taught school three terms in Rensselaer county. In the fall of 1880 he became the Principal of the Tomkins Cove public school and served in that capacity for three and a half years. In 1883 he received an appointment in the U. S. Customs service, remaining until 1886, when he resigned and began to study medicine in the University of the City of New York, graduating in 1894. During his course in the university he was Principal of the Piermont public school and taught in Columbia Grammar School in New York city. In 1894 he was elected Coroner of Rockland county, which office he held for two years and resigned from it when he assumed the duties of the office of School Commissioner, to which he had been elected in 1896. In 1898 he removed to Pearl River and began to practice medicine; he is still there. Dr. Felter is a Forester, an Odd Fellow and a member of the Royal Arcanum. He was married to Laura DeRonde, of Tomkins Cove, in 1886. He has three children, Laura Edith, born in 1887; Helen Margery, in 1892; Robert Kenneth, in 1899. He comes of good old Dutch stock, his ancestors having come from Holland. His father was David E. Felter, of Rockland Lake, a staunch Republican and a friend to good government and advancement.

DR. EUGENE B. LAIRD is a native of New York and received his education in that city. In 1877 he was graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University. For about two years following he was in hospital practice in New York and later practiced at Manasquan, N. J. He then went to Brooklyn and practiced for a time, and in 1881 came to Haverstraw. In 1882 Dr. Laird was nominated and elected by both parties to the office of Coroner of Rockland county and he has been Health Officer fifteen terms and still holds that position for Haverstraw and West Haverstraw. He is a member of the Grand Lodge, Knights of Pythias, State of New York, was the first Noble Grand of Sequel Lodge, I. O. O. F., and afterward a member of the Grand Lodge. Dr. Laird has been Chancellor Commander of Iona Lodge, No. 128, K. of P., and is court physician to Court

Rockland, F. of A., 184. He is also a member of the Rockland County Medical Society and has been President of that society for the past ten years. He was also at one period a member of Rescue Hook and Ladder Company. In 1879 Dr. Laird married Miss Mary F. Clayton, of Monmouth, N. J. They have six children living. Dr. Laird's ancestors in their time were illustrious defenders of the cause of liberty and right. His great grandfather, Robert Laird, participated in the Battle of Monmouth, June 28, 1778, in Col. Barnes Smock's regiment of Light Dragoons, and another great grandfather, Moses Mount, was in the same battle, in Col. Treaton's troop of dragoons. Ancestors on the maternal side took active part in the French and Indian wars, the Revolution and the War of 1812. Dr. Laird's office and residence is in Main street, corner of Clove avenue, Haverstraw, and he enjoys an extensive and lucrative practice in these villages and the surrounding country.

DR. CHARLES D. KLINE was born in Blauvelt, Rockland county, and attended the Nyack schools as a boy. Later, having a marked inclination towards the medical profession, he entered Columbia University and in 1892 graduated from the Physicians and Surgeons' branch of that institution. The two years following he served on the staff of the St. Francis Hospital, New York. He then came to Nyack, in 1894, and until May, 1900, was with Dr. Polhemus in the practice of medicine, and on leaving him opened his present office. Dr. Kline has for the past five years been the city Health Officer. He is treasurer of the Nyack Hospital, as well as one of its visiting physicians, and is also a member of the State Medical and the Rockland Medical Associations and a member of the Masonic fraternity.

DR. J. HOWARD CROSBY, Haverstraw, was born in London, England, at which place his parents were residing at that time. His father, a native of the State of Massachusetts, returned to America with his family shortly after and settled first in Nova Scotia and afterward at Brooklyn, N. Y. Howard was educated in Nova Scotia and was graduated from the Long Island College Hospital, Brooklyn, from which he took his degree in 1895. Upon leaving college, Dr. Crosby served two years at the New Jersey State Hospital at Morris Plains; then for two years he occupied a similar position with the Manhattan State Hos-

pital in New York, from which he resigned in 1899, coming to Haverstraw, where he opened the office he now occupies. In 1897 Dr. Crosby was married to Miss Catherine Rose, of Stony Point. In the short time that he has been a resident of Haverstraw he has built up a large practice and enjoys the thorough confidence and esteem of all citizens. He is a member of the American Medical Association, of the Rockland County Medical Association and a steward in the Haverstraw Methodist Church.

DR. S. W. SPENCER TOMS was born in Elyria, Ohio, and while a child his parents moved to Oshawa, Ontario, Canada, near Toronto, at which place he received his education. In 1883 he graduated from the Pharmacy Department of the University of Toronto, and for the five years succeeding was established in the drug business at Toronto. He then entered the Medical Department of University of Buffalo, graduating from that institution in 1891, after which for the two years following he served as interne at the Buffalo General Hospital. In 1893 he began the practice of medicine at Bellport, L. I., and in his five years of practice there established a reputation which only skill, thoroughness and strict attention to the details of his practice could have made possible. In May, 1898, he removed to Nyack and opened an office at his residence on South Broadway. His specialty is diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat. Indicative of his high standing among experts in the medical profession is the fact that in February, 1896, was conferred upon him the rare honor of "Fellow" by the New York Academy of Medicine, and in May, 1899, he was appointed Instructor of Diseases of the Eye at the New York Post Graduate Hospital, which position he now holds. He is one of the visiting staff of the Nyack Hospital, a member of the American, the New York State and the Rockland County Medical Associations, Rockland Lodge, No. 723, F. and A. M., Rockland Chapter, No. 204, R. A. M., and Court Tappan Zee, No. 225, Foresters of America. In 1894 he was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Bodell Orr, of Skeancateles, N. Y., and Allen Park Toms is the only child. Dr. Toms is an expert along the lines of his specialty, and his operating room and laboratory is fully equipped with modern surgical instruments for successfully performing delicate operations.

THE DE NOYELLES FAMILY. This family is of Huguenot origin and one of the many representatives of that persecuted race which found a place of refuge in the new world. The ancestor of this family, which has been so prominent in the history of Haverstraw, was John DeNoyelles, a young French gentleman who came here about 1760, and purchased from the heirs of Nicholas Kuyper the south part of the DeHarte Patent. He established his home on what was then the high bank of the river, and the old mansion stood nearly opposite the middle of the present coffer dam. This house was burned by the British on the night of June 20th, 1781, and another was erected a little south of the old site. This stood till within a few years, when it was torn down to make room for extended brick yards. John DeNoyelles was a very prominent man in Orange county and was a member of the Provincial Legislature in 1774. He died the next year at the early age of forty-one. His wife, Rachel, afterwards married Colonel John Robart. Mr. DeNoyelles left two sons, John and Peter, and two daughters, Sarah and Charlotte, both of whom died unmarried. John, the eldest son, married Deborah, daughter of Thomas Lawrence. Their children were Lawrence, John (who died unmarried), Levi, Edward, Robert, Daniel, Eliza (wife of James Frederick), Rachel (wife of Walter S. Coe), Charlotte (who married Henry Christie), Emily (who married Thomas Green), and Mary (wife of John Riker). John DeNoyelles, the father of this family, died August 9, 1832, aged 67 years. His wife, Deborah, died November 16, 1815, at the age of 46. Their son, Lawrence, was a prominent citizen of this county and held the office of Supervisor for several years. He married Susan, daughter of John S. Coe, and died May 3, 1842, aged 44, leaving no children. Levi married Henrietta M. Baker. Their children were: Edward, Levi L., Deborah, Daniel and Carrie, all deceased. Edward was member of Assembly 1841-1842. He married Rebecca Blauvelt, but left no children. Robert married Katy Low and left children: Thomas L., Joseph, Edward, George, Emily and Elizabeth. Daniel was born October 6, 1805, and died in August, 1836. He married Martha, daughter of Andrew Hopper, and left children: John L., Martha A. and Daniel. John Lawrence DeNoyelles was born October 6, 1828, and died about 1886. He was Supervisor of Haverstraw in 1860 and was elected President of the village fourteen times. He married Emily, daughter of Leonard Gurnee, and their children are: Charles A., Mar-

tha R. (who married Edward S. Anness, Sheriff, and had two children, Edna and Emily), John L. (who married Grace, daughter of William Bonnett and had one daughter, Grace), and Daniel.

DANIEL DE NOYELLES was a resident of New York city from the spring of 1882 until 1897. He then returned to Haverstraw, where he now resides. He is an extensive property owner, principally of brick yards. Born September 30th, 1836, in Haverstraw, he married Mary A. Gaynor in 1864. Their children are: Frank, who married Harriet Voratt; Griffith, Mary Adelaide, who married Douglas Sheriden of New York; and Nina, who married Sidney H. Gurnee. Frank, the eldest son, has one child, a daughter, named Harriet Adelaide. Peter DeNoyelles, son of John, the first of the name, married Deriche, daughter of Theodore Snedeker. Their children were: John, Daniel, Theodore, William, who married Ellen, daughter of Solomon Smith, but left no children; Peter, who married Catherine Harwig; Asbury, George, Charlotte, wife of John Coe; Effie, wife of Garret DeForest; Sarah, wife of John Theilt; Rachiel, wife of Lawrence Odell, and Mary, who married John Haring. Peter DeNoyelles was a member of Assembly in 1802 and 1803, and was member of Congress 1813-1814. His son, Asbury, was Sheriff of this county in 1846. Peter DeNoyelles died May 6, 1829, aged 63. In the old DeNoyelles burying ground stood a red stone with the following inscription: "In memory of John DeNoyelles, Esq., Member of the General Assembly for the county of Orange, in the province of New York, who departed this life January 11th, 1775, in the 41st year of his age." The remains were, in 1898, all removed from the DeNoyelles family burying ground, under the direction of Mr. Daniel DeNoyelles, to Mount Repose Cemetery, together with the monument and headstones. These graves, numbering about two hundred, occupy one large plot.

JOSEPH DE NOYELLES is fourth in direct descent from John DeNoyelles, who came to America from France in 1760. Joseph is a son of Thomas L. DeNoyelles, who was a son of Robert DeNoyelles and Kate Low DeNoyelles, and Robert DeNoyelles was a son of John DeNoyelles and Deborah Lawrence DeNoyelles, the eldest son of the founder of the family in America. Mr. DeNoyelles is a native of New City, where he received an education together with a course in the Nyack Academy. After leaving school he was employed for some seventeen

or eighteen years in the County Clerk's office at New City. In 1875 he was elected Town Clerk, which office he filled for a term of fourteen years, performing the duties of the office in connection with his other work. In 1889 he went to New York city and engaged in a retail meat business, which he conducted one year, when he sold out and returned to New City. In 1891 Mr. DeNoyelles was elected Supervisor on the Democratic ticket for the Town of Clarkstown, and served in that capacity five years. In 1897 he was appointed Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, which office he now holds, together with that of assistant clerk in the Surrogate's Court, having been appointed to the latter position in 1899. In 1883 he married Miss Cora M. Clark, of New City. They have one daughter, Blanche.

THEODORE DE NOYELLES was born in the Rockland County Court House at New City, February 10th, 1868, while his father, Thomas L. DeNoyelles, was serving as Under Sheriff. He is fourth in direct descent from John DeNoyelles of Revolutionary fame. Theodore DeNoyelles attended the public schools of New City and Nyack. After leaving school he went to Bayonne, N. J., where he remained three years and during this time learned the butcher business. In 1890 he went to New York city, where he accepted a position with the Gansevoort Bank. He remained with this institution three years, when he removed to New City and opened a retail meat and grocery business, which he is now conducting. Mr. DeNoyelles is a Justice of the Peace, having been elected to that office in 1899. He is Treasurer of Court New City, No. 327, Foresters of America, Chief of the New City fire department, and Vice President of the Rockland County Benevolent Society and is also a member of the society of Red Men. In 1894 he married Miss Pauline Buchenau, of New City. He is a trustee of the New City Methodist Church.

GEORGE E. HARING was born at Tappan, Rockland county, N. Y., February 24, 1863. He attended the schools of Englewood, N. J., until about sixteen years of age, when he took up the trade of iron-moulding. He followed this trade for a year and then went into the machine shop of the Ramapo Wheel and Foundry Company, and in March, 1881, took a position with the Ramapo Iron Works. Later he was employed in the machine shop and in 1893 became general foreman of the frog and switch department. He holds this position at the present time. In 1887 Mr. Haring married Elizabeth Riggs, of Suffern,

and they have two children, Anna and Reuben. Mr. Haring is a member of Ramapo Lodge, No. 589, F. and A. M., and Eureka Chapter, No. 287, of Suffern, Hudson River Commandery, of Newburgh, and Mecca Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. of New York city.

ADAM CREELMAN was born in Nova Scotia March 29, 1862. At the age of eighteen he went to Boston and worked for a time as millwright for the N. Y. and N. E. R. R. Co. He then went to Worcester, Mass., as a millwright for the American Steel and Wire Company, remaining there a few years, when being offered a position in the construction department of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, he accepted and held the position five years. His next situation was that of Master Mechanic in the H. R. Worthington Hydraulic Works of Brooklyn, N. Y. This position he held about five years. In January, 1889, Mr. Creelman came to Hillburn as Superintendent of the Rockland Electric Company, an office he still holds. He is also Superintendent of the Mountain Spring Water Company, and occupies the position of Superintendent of motive power of the Ramapo Iron Works. January 8th, 1890, Mr. Creelman married Frances D. Martin, of Worcester, Mass. He is a member of Ramapo Lodge, F. and A. M., and Eureka Chapter of Suffern and of Hudson River Commandery of Newburgh. He is also a member of the Knights of Malta, Palestine Commandery of Brooklyn. In the fall of 1900, recognizing the need of a local company for the supply of ice, Mr. Creelman erected buildings, purchased an equipment and gave to the citizens of Suffern and adjoining towns the luxury of a daily ice delivery. The business is rapidly increasing and bids fair to be a very profitable enterprise. James Creelman, the father of Adam, is a native of Nova Scotia. In 1860 he founded a woolen manufacturing business, which has grown into an extensive concern, and is now being conducted under the firm name of James Creelman & Sons.

ABRAM DATER was born at Sloatsburg, Rockland county, November 10th, 1863, and his education was obtained in the village schools of that place. After leaving school he entered his father's employ as clerk in the grocery store. He was then sixteen years of age and from that time until his father's death, in 1898, he remained in the store as his father's assistant, succeeding to the business upon his

death. Mr. Dater is a descendant of one of the leading families of Rockland county, whose enterprises are particularly interwoven with the history of Sloatsburg.

GEORGE FREEMAN was born in Monsey, N. Y., December 11th, 1871. He attended the local schools and after leaving school clerked for a time in Boston, Mass., and Paterson, N. J., later in Suffern, N. Y., for his uncle. He started in the grocery and provision business in Hillburn, N. Y., about nine years ago and has built up a lucrative trade, his delivery service covering the surrounding territory. He is a member of the fire department and is a very energetic and progressive man. He is also identified with the ice company in the capacity of a stock holder. His family consists of self and wife, formerly Miss Lizzie Carlough.

WATSON E. DE BAUN was born at Nyack December 24, 1867. He attended the public schools and afterward learned the building business with the firm of M. W. & H. DeBaun, with whom he remained four years. He then spent one year in the West and in 1889 took charge of the Tuxedo business of the above firm. This he purchased in 1902 and is now most successfully conducting it. Mr. DeBaun has offices in Suffern and Tuxedo. He has served as Trustee of the village of Suffern for three years and for one year as Water Commissioner. In 1893 Mr. DeBaun was married to Mabel Stewart, of Nyack, and their family consists of three children, Marguerite, Isabelle and Henry W.

C. E. OVERTON, Suffern was born at Bellport, L. I., August 24, 1858. His ancestors were among the pioneer settlers of that vicinity. Mr. Overton attended the public schools and remained home on the farm until he became of age, after which he learned the carpenter's trade and worked at it until 1884, when he started in business as a builder. He has since erected many fine structures, particularly in Tuxedo, and is at present a Trustee of the village of Suffern, where he resides. Mr. Overton was married in 1892 to Maud Stryker, of this State, and their family consists of the following children: Frederick Stryker, Edward Charles, Ralph Alonzo.

CHARLES H. MEAD, of the firm of Mead & Taft, at Cornwall, is well known throughout the State. The business of the firm was estab-

lished by our subject in 1853, and in 1861 the present partnership was formed. Mead & Taft deal extensively in lumber, coal and building supplies of all descriptions and also conduct a real estate business, and their reputation as contractors and builders is one of which they may be proud. On the 29th of March, 1879, the firm met with a serious loss in the burning of their building, but with characteristic energy a large and commodious building was at once erected, and their business continued without delay. At the present time they have in their employ over six hundred men, their trade extending almost throughout the entire State. They have manufactured many portable cottages for watering places and have had the contracts for the erection of many large and expensive buildings in New York and its suburbs. Joseph N. Mead, the father of our subject, was born near Norwich, Conn., and while a young man removed to Cold Spring, Putnam county, N. Y., where he engaged in running a sailing packet, which carried passengers and freight from Albany to New York. He subsequently ran the boat from Cold-spring to New York, continuing thus until the destruction of his vessel by fire. He was among the early sailing masters on the Hudson river, and was well and favorably known throughout a large section of the country. After the burning of his vessel he located at Garrison's Landing, Putnam county, and built a dock, a residence and a store, continuing in trade there until the time of his death, which occurred in 1841. He married Phoebe Garrison, a daughter of Judge Harry Garrison, a representative of one of the families who early settled on Long Island. Judge Garrison was for many years prominently identified with Putnam county and was a man of sterling character. He was the owner of slaves, but gave them their liberty as early as 1823. Joseph N. and Phoebe (Garrison) Mead were the parents of six children: Mary, Jane (now deceased, who married James D. Faurot, of Fort Montgomery), Joseph Henry (deceased), Hannah Elizabeth (widow of Sylvanus Coursun), William Augustus (who passed away in childhood), Charles Henry (our subject), and Sidney (who died in infancy). The mother died in January, 1879. The paternal grandparents of our subject were Abram and Hannah Mead, and the latter's father, Abram, was at one time the sole owner of Cold Spring, Putnam county, N. Y. The paternal great-grandmother was Elizabeth, a daughter of General Nicholson, of Revolutionary fame. Charles Henry Mead, who was born in Putnam

county July 24, 1831, remained with his parents until nine years of age, receiving his primary education under the direction of Rev. Mr. Williams, an Episcopal clergyman. In 1841 he went to live with his sister, Mary Jane Faurot, at Fort Montgomery, where his education was continued in the common schools. When seventeen years old he came to Cornwall and engaged to learn the trade of a carpenter with Daniel Taft. In June, 1854, he was united in marriage with Mary E. Taft, and their union has been blessed with twelve children: Charles, who has charge of the hardware store, married Eva Brooks and they have three children, Laura, Elting and George; Lizzie, who married Charles Mahler, is the mother of two children, James and Charles; Minnie, who married Andrew B. Ryer, has two children, Edith and Willie; Clara, married Dr. Sheldon, of New York, and they have two children, Margaret and Alice; Harry, who is engaged in the shipping business in New York, married Marietta Reynolds, who died leaving two children, Harold and John; Jennie, now the wife of Robert Tuttle, resides in New York. The remaining children, who are not yet married, are Frank, Ida, Lulu, Clifton, Mabel and Walter. All have had excellent opportunities for an education, receiving instruction in private schools. Upon all national issues Mr. Mead is a Republican, but locally is not a strict party man. Socially he is a Mason, an Odd Fellow and a Knight of Honor. In the Odd Fellows' Lodge he is Past Grand, was for two years District Deputy, and has been Treasurer of the Knights of Honor since its organization. All the family but the youngest are members of the Episcopal Church, of which Mr. Mead is Senior Warden.

GEORGE E. WHRITENOUR was born at Sloatsburg June 8, 1877. His education was acquired in the public schools of that place and at MacChesney's Business College. Upon leaving school he entered the employ of his father in his Sloatsburg grocery. After a year's clerkship he secured a position as stenographer with the American News Company of New York. With this company he remained only a short time, returned to Sloatsburg as his father's clerk and shortly after this purchased the grocery business of V. Waldron. He conducted this for a time, sold out and purchased his father's business, which he is conducting at the present time. February 4th, 1902, Mr. Whritenour married Edna B. Allen, daughter of E. F. Allen, of Sloatsburg. Mr. Whritenour is a member of Ramapo Lodge, No. 589, F. and A. M., Sloats-

burg Council, No. 93, Junior O. U. A. M., and James H. Butler Camp, No. 47, Sons of Veterans. His father, John Whitenour, came to Sloatsburg with his parents as a child from New Jersey, and at the outbreak of the Civil War enlisted in the navy and for three years fought under Admiral Faragut, participating in the Battle of Mobile Bay and all the notable engagements of that brilliant officer.

W. E. BLAKSLEE was born at Woonsocket, R. I., August 10th, 1852. His ancestors were among the early pioneer families who located in the Berkshire Hills and his father was a highly respected resident of Massachusetts. W. E. Blakslee attended the public schools in Worcester and early in life learned mechanical engineering. He was an employe of the Jerome Wheelock Engine Works for three years in Worcester and of the Mount Holyoke pleasure resort and with Rice & Barton, manufacturers of paper and calico machinery until he entered the employ of the Boston and Albany R. R., where he remained about three years, subsequently taking a position with the C. B. and Q. R. R., at Creston, Iowa. In 1882 he was appointed master mechanic of the Ramapo Iron Works, a position which he still most acceptably occupies. Mr. Blakslee is a member of Morning Star Lodge, F. and A. M., Worcester, Mass., Worcester Royal Arch Chapter, Terry City Council, of Paterson, N. J., Hudson River Commandery of Newburg and Mecca Temple Shrine, New York city. His family consists of wife, who was prior to her marriage Miss Mary Culver, of Rome, N. Y., and two children living, Fannie C. and Robert. His two eldest children, Howard and Edward, died when ten and five years of age, respectively. An expert and skilled mechanic. Mr. Blakslee commands the highest wages and enjoys the entire confidence of his employers as well as of the public.

WARREN BLANCHARD is a native of Rockland county. He was born at Hempstead November 27th, 1862. His education was obtained in the public schools of Hempstead and Spring Valley and his early life was spent on his father's farm, where he remained until about twenty-two years of age. He then removed to Spring Valley and purchased of E. A. Cooper the flour mill on Main street of that village. This enterprise proved successful, and during the eight years in which he conducted it he built up a large and profitable trade and greatly increased the capacity of the mill. In 1896 he established the carriage

repository business in Spring Valley, which he is conducting to-day. In this business, as in everything he undertakes, he has, through skillful management and tireless energy, placed the establishment on a solid financial basis. In 1885 he was united in marriage with Anna A., daughter of Cornelius Blauvelt, of Spring Valley. They have three children, Harry LaMonte, Frank DeWitt and Floyd DeWitt. Mr. Blanchard is one of the prominent Republicans of the town of Ramapo, is a firm believer in the principles of the Republican party, and always takes an active part in the promotion of the best interests of that organization in the local field. He has served as clerk of the town of Ramapo, clerk of Commissioner of Highways, and secretary of the Board of Health. In the capacity of Supervisor of the town of Ramapo Mr. Blanchard showed marked ability and his zeal and enterprise in the construction and maintenance of good roads has placed him high in the esteem of the citizens of Ramapo. His father, James Blanchard, was born in Rockland county, where he always resided. He was a prominent farmer and dealer in lumber and ship timber. He died in 1881.

JOHN W. GILLIES was born in Haverstraw, N. Y., May 3d, 1878. He was educated at St. Paul's School, Garden City, L. I. In 1899 he opened a real estate and general insurance office in Haverstraw, which practically controls the real estate situation in that vicinity, and he has a large share of the insurance business also. A short time ago Mr. Gillies, in connection with Mr. Hibbard, established a similar office in New York city, under the firm name of Gillies & Hibbard, corner of Madison avenue and Fifty-second street. Upon January 1st, 1902, Mr. Hibbard was succeeded in this branch of the business by A. T. Cleary. John W. Gillies was married May 3, 1900, to Hannah Brewster, a daughter of Brewster Allison, Esq., of Stony Point. Mr. Gillies is a young man of energy and business ability and is quietly enlarging his field of operation and strengthening his business.

JOHN W. BABCOCK was born at Warwick, Orange county, N. Y., September 11th, 1850. He attended the Ramapo and Sloatsburg schools, and after leaving school obtained a position in the car wheel works at Ramapo, working under his brother Isaac, who was then foreman of the shops. After working there for a time he secured a position with the Cummings Car Co., of Jersey City. He was with this company

about two years. He then took a three years' course of instruction in house building, following which, in 1877, he returned to the Ramapo Wheel and Foundry Co. as pattern maker. This position he occupied some eighteen years. In 1895 he took his present position of Assistant Foreman in the pattern department of the Ramapo Iron Works. In 1878 he married Catherine Bradbury, of South Orange, N. J. They have two children, Bessie and Harry. He is a charter member of Onward Lodge, No. 537, of Suffern.

ALBERT J. CARSON is a mason contractor and builder who thoroughly understands his business and is one of the most successful workmen in Haverstraw. It is now thirty-four years since he began business in that place and during this time he has constructed a large number of handsome residences and substantial business blocks. He was born in Haverstraw October 17th, 1847, where he attended the public school and later graduated from the Mountain Institute of Haverstraw. He then began work for his father, who was also a mason and builder, and continued with him till the year 1868, when he branched out in the same business with his brother Charles, under the name of "Carson Bros." His brother died in 1890, since which time he has carried on the business very extensively. Mr. Carson was married in 1872 to Mary Selina Felter, daughter of Harmon Felter, of Haverstraw. They have five children, namely: Adelaide F., Carrie L., Harmon F., Mary E. and William R. Pitts, Adelaide F. was married to George S. Allison of Stony Point; Carrie L. was married to S. S. VerValen, of Haverstraw, and they have one child. Mr. Carson held the office of School Trustee for six years, from 1880 to 1886. He is a member of Stony Point Lodge, No. 313, F. and A. M., Iona Lodge, No. 128, K. of P., and was a member of Rescue Hook and Ladder Company for seven years. He has been a member of the M. E. Church for the last thirty years, and one of the members of the official board of the church for the last fifteen years, and takes an active interest in all church matters.

J. DIEDRICH BECKERMAN was born in the Province of Hanover, Germany, March 5, 1856. Upon completing his education in the public schools he was apprenticed for four years in a large dry goods establishment in Holland. During these four years he learned the business and mastered the many details incident to the conduct of an exten-

sive dry goods trade. He then came to New York and entered the wholesale house of his brothers-in-law, D. & W. Heidgerd, where he remained some twelve years, and in 1886 opened a jobbing house in silks and trimmings, which has since reached large proportions, employing upwards of thirty men. In 1880 he married Miss Anna Heidgerd. They have four children: Arnold, Anna, Elsa and Helene, all living at home. Mr. Beckermann resides in New York winters and in Monsey, Rockland county, N. Y., during the summer months. His summer home is an ideal home, having beautiful grounds tastefully arranged, with luxuriant plants and flowering shrubs, which tend to make it a cool and inviting retreat during the hot summer months.

DAVID J. SMITH is a native of Rockland county, having been born at West Nyack December 27th, 1857. At the age of thirteen he began as clerk in his father's grocery store at that place. In 1877 he, with his two brothers, succeeded to the business, which they conducted until 1890, when he bought his brothers' interests in the business and ran it alone until 1897, when he sold out. Mr. Smith was appointed Postmaster of West Nyack under President McKinley May 11th, 1897, which office he now holds. Previous to his appointment to this office his brother, John H. Smith, held that office for a number of years, and prior to his brother's incumbency his father, John T. Smith, had held the office continuously since his appointment in 1869. Mr. Smith is a member of the Independent Order of Red Men and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In 1881 he married Louisa VanHouten, of West Nyack. They have one child living, Hazel C. Smith. Mr. Smith was the first excise commissioner to be elected in Clarkstown on the Republican ticket, serving three years. He has served as poor master one term and was Coroner for Rockland county from 1895 until 1902.

ALOYSE OBERLE, Highland Falls, was born in that part of the German Empire formerly owned by France (Alsace-Lorraine) November 23d, 1852, and was but eighteen years of age when he crossed the Atlantic and made his home in America. Prior to coming to America he attended the model schools of his native land. Upon landing in New York harbor after a slow and tedious voyage, Mr. Oberle made his way direct to Highland Falls, N. Y., where for a period of eleven years he worked in the general store of Daniel Zint. Of frugal and industrious

habits, he made it a point to save the greater portion of his wages, and in this way secured the means to start in business for himself. At first he began in a modest way, his trade rapidly grew and to-day he enjoys a liberal share of the best patronage of this vicinity. Mr. Oberle's first marriage took place in June, 1881, to Miss Mary Halpin, who departed this life March 26th, 1889, leaving a daughter and two sons, Mary, Joseph and James. In 1900 Mr. Oberle married Miss Mary Ward, of Highland Falls, N. Y. He is a member of the Catholic Benevolent League and is very highly regarded wherever known.

JACOB E. VANDERBILT was born on his father's farm near New City November 21, 1843. He attended the New City schools and also pursued his studies in the Rutherford Academy at Nyack. From the time of leaving school up to 1873 he passed uneventfully on his father's farm, assisting in the care and management of the place. In 1873 he and his father (John J.) erected a building in New City and established therein a general grocery business, under the firm name of J. J. Vanderbilt & Son. Under these conditions the business was carried along smoothly and profitably until 1881, when John J. Vanderbilt, the father, died. From 1881 until 1895 the business was owned and managed by Jacob E. Vanderbilt. In 1866 he was united in marriage with Miss Emma Harris. They have one child, Sarah, wife of William DeBevoise, who has held the position of Postmaster of New City for the past three years. In 1892 Mr. Vanderbilt was appointed Postmaster of New City, occupying that office four years. He has served some four years as Justice of the Peace. He is President of the Rockland County Industrial Association and has done much towards furthering the interests of that society. He is also a member of the executive committee of the State Union Agricultural Society, having been elected to that office five years ago, and for the past fourteen years has filled the office of Treasurer for the Industrial Benevolent Society. Both Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt are members of the New City Episcopal Church, of which the former is vestryman and also Treasurer. The Vanderbilt family have been identified with Rockland county from the beginning of its existence as a county, coming here from Holland in the early part of the seventeenth century. They settled in this part of what was then Orange county, and which has since been set off as Rockland county. Jacob Vanderbilt, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was a soldier in the War

of 1812, and owned a large tract of land near New City. At this place was born his son, John J., as was also his two grandsons, Jacob E. and Augustus Vanderbilt, who now own equal shares in the place. The latter, since the death of their father, has managed the farm and made his residence thereon. In 1895 Mr. Vanderbilt took in as a partner Mr. Wm. DeBevoise, his son-in-law, who now holds the position of Postmaster.

EDWIN J. SENGSTACKEN was born in New York city, and when he was an infant his parents moved to Sullivan county, where his father engaged in farming in the town of Fallsburg. He was educated in the public schools of the town and in 1890 came to Stony Point and began the study of pharmacy with his brother, Dr. J. Sengstacken, who conducted a drug store at that place. He remained with him five years, and passed an examination before the State Board of Pharmacists, receiving his diploma. Mr. Sengstacken then came to Tomkins Cove and embarked in the drug business on his own account and he also now owns a half interest in a Stony Point pharmacy, Mr. George B. Hastings, his partner in that enterprise, being the manager of that branch. In 1893 Edwin J. Sengstacken was united in marriage with Miss Julia E. Lukens, of Middletown, N. Y. Mr. Sengstacken has served as Tax Collector for the town of Stony Point and as census enumerator for election district No. 2. He is a member of the Stony Point Lodge of Masons and of the Odd Fellows and Red Men.

LOUIS ADLER is a native of Austria, where he lived until about the age of ten, when his parents came to this country, locating in Haverstraw. He received an education in the schools of Haverstraw and New York. After leaving school he was employed in various capacities for a time and in 1893 embarked in the retail meat and grocery business at Garnerville, which he is still conducting. Mr. Adler is a young man of strict business principles, is energetic, progressive and ambitious, and combining as he does these attributes, with a thorough knowledge of the details of the business, has contributed towards making his establishment a thriving center of the Garnerville trade. In 1893 he married Miss Belle Herring, of Middletown, N. Y. They have three children: Annie, Charles and Louis J. Mr. Adler is a member of the General

Warren Hose Company No. 2 of Haverstraw and belongs to the Order of Red Men and Odd Fellows.

JOSEPH RIEBER is a native of Germany, having been born in the State of Pfalz September 27, 1867. His education was obtained in the public schools of that place, after which he assisted his father on his farm for a time, and for a year or two before sailing for America he conducted trade, with a general stock of goods, having a route and selling to farmers and residents of small villages. In 1882 he came to America and settled in Rockland county. For two or three years he was engaged in agricultural work as foreman for the McWhorter farm at that place. He then took a position with William Hutton Jr., at Nanuet, as clerk in his store and post office, where he remained nine years. December 13, 1900, Mr. Rieber removed to Pearl River and engaged in the grocery business. In this he has been very successful and now enjoys the patronage of the greater portion of the citizens of Pearl River and also conducts a suburban weekly route which is proving very profitable. Mr. Rieber is a member of the Royal Arcanum of Pearl River. October 5, 1890, he was united in marriage with Margaret Zimmerman, of New York. Their family consists of five children: Katie and John (twins), Margaret, Rosa and Josephine. A son, Martin, died in infancy.

PETER DE BEVOISE was born in the DeBevoise homestead three-quarters of a mile south of New City, Rockland county, May 17th, 1840. He attended the public schools of New City and at the age of eighteen purchased a news and stationery establishment in Haverstraw, which also included a paper route. This was the only concern of the kind in Haverstraw at that time. In the course of a year or two he disposed of this business and in company with his brother-in-law, Jeremiah Pye, launched out in the undertaking business at Haverstraw. This they very successfully conducted until 1861, when the nation's call for able-bodied patriots induced Mr. DeBevoise to surrender his interest in the business and take up arms in defense of the Union. In October, 1861, he enlisted as private in Company F, 95th Infantry, New York Volunteers. He was first under fire in the battle near Gainesville, Virginia, August 28, 1862. This was one of the battles connected with the second battle of Manassas (Bull Run). His regiment was also engaged the same day in fighting at Groveton, and was again under fire on the

30th. Its losses in this battle amounted to twenty-three killed and wounded and ninety missing or captured, a total of one hundred and thirteen. Many of the missing were also killed or wounded. Mr. DeBevoise was then promoted to a sergeancy. He was afterward taken seriously ill and was removed to the Judiciary Square Hospital at Washington in August of 1862, and was later transferred to the Summit House Hospital at Philadelphia, where he was confined until the summer of 1863. Upon his convalescence he was made First Sergeant of the Veteran's Reserve Corps, 59th Company, Second Battalion, stationed at Philadelphia, and went on duty enforcing the draft. He was mustered out in October, 1864, at Harrisburg, Pa. He re-enlisted March 1st, 1865, in Hancock's First Veteran Corps as private and was sent to Hart's Island and attached to Co. B, Second Regiment, U. S. Veteran Volunteers. They were transported via Fort Monroe to Washington, then conveyed to Harper's Ferry and up the Shenandoah to Winchester, Va., thence to Washington, where they participated in the grand review of the entire army. They were then transported to New York and up the Hudson to Albany, remaining in the latter city on post duty until the following March, when they were transferred to Sandy Hook, where in August of 1866, Mr. DeBevoise received his discharge, having served four and one-half years. Mr. DeBevoise then returned to New City and for a number of years assisted his father in the management of his farm. In 1872 he purchased the grocery business of Alsie Cornelison in New City, which he carried on for some time, afterwards leasing it to parties who eventually purchased it and sold it to Theodore DeNoyelles, the present owner. In 1879 he was united in marriage with Ada M. Clark, of New City. They have two daughters, Emma C., born August 4, 1880, and Irene, born October 6, 1882. Mr. DeBevoise was for nineteen years Postmaster of New City, occupying that office when it was known as Clarkstown, and was chiefly instrumental in having the name of the town and post office changed to New City. He resigned this office October 1st, 1892. He is a member of Edward Pye Post, No. 179, G. A. R., and of Stony Point Lodge No. 313, F. and A.M.

GEORGE W. SHERMAN is a native of Fairfield county, Connecticut. Born in 1870, he received a good education and early in life learned mechanical engineering. This he followed up to the time of his appointment as General Manager of the factory of the Crown Button

Company at Spring Valley in 1900. During the time in which he followed engineering his operations extended into several States. Mr. Sherman now supervises the entire operation of the button factory, in which employment is furnished to about fifty hands. Socially he is associated with the Sons of Veterans and Odd Fellows, and is a progressive and energetic business man. Mr. Sherman is a descendant from an old Colonial family of New England and his ancestors for many generations have been residents of Fairfield county. His family consists of his wife, formerly Minnie J. Beaman, of Shelton, Conn., and they have six children: Percy, Whitney, Edith, Vianna, Elbert and Fannie.

LOUIS BOECHER is a native of Germany, having been born in Hessian Darmstadt October 28th, 1849. At the age of four and one-half years his parents removed to America, locating at Brooklyn, and at ten years of age he was apprenticed to a tinsmith, with whom he worked the following three years. He then took up the trade of wheelwright, served his apprenticeship and was employed by various firms at this trade until 1870, when he embarked in the hardware business for himself in Brooklyn. This business he conducted successfully until 1890. He then removed to Spring Valley and established the hardware business that he is now conducting. In 1872 Mr. Boecher was united in marriage with Catherine Lehr, of Brooklyn, N. Y. They have three children: Louisa, wife of Charles I. Knapp, of Low Point, N. Y.; Louis H. and Hilda C. Mr. Boecher is a member of Ridgewood Lodge, No. 710, F. and A. M., Brooklyn, N. Y., and Harmonia Lodge, No. 394, I. O. O. F., of Brooklyn. For years he was a member of and instructor in the Williamsburg Turn Verein Athletic Association of Brooklyn, but was obliged to resign on his removal to Spring Valley. This removal also necessitated his resignation from the Nineteenth Ward Cavalry Association as Lieutenant and as Orderly Sergeant in Company D, N. Y. State Militia, 32d Regiment. Mr. Boecher's father, Conrad Boecher, was a political refugee from Germany. As First Lieutenant in the Hessian army, he participated in the revolutionary wars of the German Empire of 1849 and '50. At the close of the war his property, which was considerable, was confiscated and he was obliged to flee to America for protection. On his arrival he opened a merchant tailoring establishment in Brooklyn, which he conducted for many years. He died in 1889.

GEORGE W. SCOTT was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., October 14th, 1868. After leaving school he was a fireman on the railroad for two years, then entered the wholesale grocery house of Austin, Nichols & Co., with whom he remained until he entered the employ of Mrs. Agnes Haerter as bookkeeper in her pipe factory at Spring Valley, N. Y. Mr. Scott remained with her until November, 1900, when he went into partnership with Mr. Kliethermes and purchased the business that they are now successfully conducting under the firm name of Scott & Kliethermes. Their briar and apple-wood smoking pipes reach all parts of the country, and are noted for excellence and artistic finish. The business was established in 1860 by William Heyenga, the first pipe manufacturer in America. The firm employ between forty and fifty hands and manufacture many different styles of briar and apple-wood pipes. The factory is situated on Central avenue in the village of Spring Valley. Mr. Scott's wife was Nellie S. Stone, a daughter of one of the projectors of the Brooklyn Bridge. They have one child, Julia.

RICHARD KLIETHERMES, of the firm of Scott & Kliethermes of Spring Valley, is a native of Germany, born in 1859. He came to this country in 1880 and for a year engaged at his trade of watchmaking in New York. In 1881 he came to Spring Valley and entered the employ of William Heyenga, the pipe manufacturer. He remained with these works until he, in connection with Mr. Scott, purchased the business in 1900 now conducted under the firm name of Scott & Kliethermes. During most of that time he was in the employ of Mr. Heyenga as foreman of the factory. Mr. Kliethermes is identified with various associations. His family consists of his wife, who was Mary E. Kniess, of Spring Valley, and three children: William, Richard and Mary. The firm of which he is a member employ about forty hands.

CHARLES YOUNG was born in Viola January 27th, 1844. He attended school there and remained home on the farm until twenty-two years of age, when he established himself in the milk business. After two years he engaged in the retail meat business, which he conducted up to the year 1886, when he established his present livery stables near the Spring Valley depot. Mr. Young was married in 1864 to Annie Iserman, who departed this life in 1896. His family now consists of three children: Minnie, Nettie, married to George Remsen, and Mabel.

Charles Young possesses the most complete establishment in his line in the town and does a thriving business. He owns the building as well as the business and also owns a fine residence in the village. George Rensen is associated with his father-in-law and he is a very energetic and reliable assistant. Mr. Rensen's family consists of wife and two children, Ethel M. and Velvia. He is identified with the Foresters, Royal Arcanum, K. of P., etc. Jacob Young, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born near Monsey, Rockland county, November 2, 1813. The early years of his life were passed on his father's farm and at the age of twenty-four he embarked in the grocery business at Viola, which he conducted some thirteen years. He then purchased a farm near Viola, where he resided for many years, afterwards removing to Spring Valley. His wife, formerly Jane Ackerman Ramsay, died February 2, 1885.

WILLIAM HEYENGA was born in East Friesland, Germany, August 8th, 1827. His schooling was obtained in the public schools of his native place and at the age of fourteen he was apprenticed and served four years at the horn turning trade. He then, in 1850, took a position as foreman in a pearl button factory in the Hartz Mountains of Germany. This position he occupied about nine years, and then began manufacturing pearl buttons on his own account. He conducted this establishment only a short time, when he sold out and came to America. He landed in New York in 1860, and shortly afterward, in company with Mr. Lesser, began in a small way the manufacture of pipes. Their combined cash capital at this time amounted to \$2.50, but the business grew gradually and surely. Soon larger quarters were needed to handle the increasing trade. Machinery gradually took the place of hand labor and with the advent of the Civil War this infant enterprise leaped into instant prominence and prosperity. Mr. Heyenga was the first manufacturer of pipes in America. He invented and patented the pipe covers that were used so extensively a few years ago. He was also the first in this country to adopt the use of the metal ferrule which is now seen on a majority of pipes. As their business increased investments were made in real estate and they finally operated and owned throughout, three large factories, all in New York and employing about one hundred and fifty hands. Their trade extended all over the civilized world. Mr. Heyenga retired from active life for a time in 1880 and moved to Spring

Valley, his present home. Tiring of an inactive life, the following year he established a pipe factory at Spring Valley. He operated this factory a few years and then turned it over to his son Herman, who managed the concern until 1894, when he died. Mr. Heyenga's daughter Agnes, widow of Hugo Haerter, then took active management of the business, and ably demonstrated her executive ability as superintendent and business manager. In 1900 she leased the business to Messrs. Scott & Kliethermes. Mr. Scott was formerly the bookkeeper and Mr. Kliethermes the foreman during Mrs. Haerter's regime. They are still conducting the business, manufacturing briar and mereschau pipes. In 1857 William Heyenga married Lena Juacks. They have five children, two of whom are living, Mrs. Agnes Haerter and Anna Heyenga, both living with their father at the home in Spring Valley. Mr. Heyenga is Past Master and a charter member of Tetonia Lodge, No. 617, F. and A. M., and Past Noble Grand of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

I. C. LINDEMANN is a native of Germany. He was born in the year 1841, and learned his trade of pipe making before coming to America. He worked at his trade in New York and then located in Spring Valley, N. Y., where he is still conducting business. He manufactures a very fine line of pipes and his goods reach all parts of the country. Mr. Lindemann has been a widower for the past fourteen years. He has three children living: Otto, Adela and Ida. He is connected with the Odd Fellows, etc., and is a very industrious and honorable German American.

A. S. BURNS, Jr., was born in New York city, March 22d, 1875. He received his education in the schools at Woodside and Flushing, L. I., and after leaving school immediately entered his father's wholesale establishment devoted to supplying the New York market with choice flowers. He also for a time took charge of his father's greenhouse at Woodside. February 1st, 1890, he established his present greenhouses in Spring Valley, which now cover about four acres and contain 17,000 square feet of glass. These greenhouses contain all modern features and in them Mr. Burns makes a specialty of raising a superior line of carnations for the New York market. Since coming to Spring Valley Mr. Burns has erected a very elegant residence adjoining his greenhouses and in February, 1902, he was united in marriage to Miss Annie E.

Clough. A thorough going business man and a representative citizen, A. S. Burns will continue to grow in the esteem of all and his business will undoubtedly become the leading establishment of the kind in this vicinity.

GEORGE BARDIN, Jr., is a native of Brussels, Belgium, coming to America while an infant with his parents. His father for a number of years past has owned and conducted the St. George Hotel, of Nyack, N. Y., and for a time succeeding his arrival in America was private secretary to Jim Fisk. George Bardin, Jr., attended the public schools of New York city as a boy and later learned the hotel business under the able tuition of his father. During 1885 and 1886 he was bookkeeper for the St. Nicholas Club on Fifth avenue, one of the fashionable clubs of the city. 1893 he accepted a position with the Bowery Fire Insurance Company of New York. He remained with this company three years when he resigned and shortly after opened a restaurant and catering establishment at Yonkers. Under his management this place became famous as a fashionable restaurant, ranking with Delmonico's of New York, and was known as the finest catering establishment in Westchester county. In 1899 he sold out his Yonkers establishment and for a time managed his father's business during his trip abroad. In 1893 he was united in marriage with Marion S., daughter of the late J. H. Hay, U. S. A., of Salem, N. Y. They have two children, Louis Hay, eight years of age, and George Seabury, five years old.

MRS. MARY G. PARTRIDGE, of Nyack, came to America from Scotland with her parents. They first settled in New York city. Her father afterwards moved to Williamsburg, Brooklyn, and in 1846 she married John G. Gunn. Mr. Gunn died in 1869 and on July 2d, 1873, she married her second husband, Mr. J. C. Partridge, who died in May, 1889. Upon both her father's and mother's side she is of Scotch descent. Her father, Peter MacMillen, was a member of the celebrated MacMillan family, and her mother, Catherine MacIntyre, of the well known MacIntyres. With her first husband she lived in Nyack until his death in 1869, and later with Mr. Partridge, whose death occurred in 1889. During her long residence in Nyack Mrs. Partridge has been especially interested in and influential towards furthering the temperance cause. She has been identified with the leading movements which

have had this end in view, such as the "Helping Hand," in which she is a Directress, and others. Mrs. Partridge is also a member of the Universalist Church, and has always worked heart and hand for all churches. Her benevolence and assistance is cherished and her influence for good has long been recognized in this community. We may add that she "has worn the white rose of a blameless life and worn it well." An incident worthy of note in her family history is that her mother, Catherine MacIntyre, lived for nine years with Sir Walter Scott's family as governess.

HARRY HIRSCHFELD is among the prosperous business men of Haverstraw. He has been located in this country for about fifteen years and has been engaged in the grocery business, and is now in the wholesale liquor business. He was for two years engaged in business in New York city. Mr. Hirschfeld's family consists of wife (who was Miss Jennie Engel, of New York) and three children: Morris, Florence and Estelle. Mr. Hirschfeld has become identified with the fire department and is considered a wide-awake and prosperous and up-to-date business man. He has many friends wherever known.

LAURITZ TERMANSEN, Stony Point, is a native of Denmark. He received an education in the schools of that country and afterwards entered the Technical Institute at Copenhagen, from which he received a degree in 1866. He then for a time worked with Holmes Bros., who hold the title of Royal Painters. In 1867 Mr. Termansen decided to come to America and settled in New York city, where he followed the art of decorating for a number of years. In 1870 the first Charleston Institute Fair was opened and Mr. Termansen was sent there to supervise the decorations of the Academy of Music. This work was of such a high order of excellence that the Institute granted him a diploma. In 1872 he entered the Royal Academy of Art at Munich for one year and the year following he pursued his studies in the Paris Art Institute. He then returned to New York, where he resumed work in decorating and painting. April 29th, 1879, Mr. Termansen married Lena Young, daughter of Conrad Young, of Stony Point, and they have one daughter, Clara. Mr. Termansen has served as Justice of the Peace and is now a member of the Board of Education. Terman Lauritsen, Mr. Termansen's father, was born in 1816, and died in 1868. He was in the early

part of his career a contractor, but later engaged in the wholesale grain business, and was also a prominent dealer in cattle, buying and shipping the latter to England. In accordance with a custom then in vogue, the eldest son assumed the name of his father, with the name reversed, thus Terman Lauritsen's eldest son is known as Lauritz Termansen. In an elegant residence overlooking the scenes of many famous events in our country's history, Mr. Termansen passes the days of his middle life in quiet repose and in the enjoyment of health, prosperity and a united family.

ALFRED SMITH was born in the town of Ramapo, near Viola, May 13, 1839. His education was obtained in that neighborhood. At an early age he left school and devoted his time to assisting his father on the farm. Upon the death of his father in 1861 he took the entire management of the place. In 1879 Mr. Smith married Alice Bradbury, formerly of Philadelphia, but at the time of their marriage and for the nine years preceding, she, with Miss Wood, as the firm of Wood & Bradbury, conducted a dry goods and millinery establishment at Spring Valley. In 1884 Mr. Smith sold his farm and purchased Miss Wood's interest in the Spring Valley establishment and has since devoted his time with Mrs. Smith in conducting the same, under the firm name of A. Smith & Co.. They have one daughter, Harriet B. Smith. Mr. Smith has served as Postmaster of the town and during the Civil War went out with the Seventeenth New York Militia. With his family he is a member of the Spring Valley Methodist Church, of which he is trustee and steward. He was one of the organizers as well as one of the first trustees of the Monsey Congregational Church. Mr. Smith was also one of the charter members of the Brewer Fire Engine Company of Monsey. His mother, Mrs. Hannah Smith, died February 13th, 1902, aged 93 years. Mr. Smith comes, on his father's side, from an old Rockland county family, and on the mother's side he is descended from Garret Serven, County Judge and Surrogate, and also from James Taylor of Monsey, who was for many years Justice of the Peace.

HARRY C. WANAMAKER was born in Suffern January 1st, 1857. He attended the schools of Suffern and in 1870-1871 the Fort Edward Collegiate Institute. In 1873 Mr. Wanamaker began learning the mason and builder's trade, which he followed until 1876, when he

and his brother, Winfield S. Wanamaker, began contracting and building. The two brothers continued this business until 1896, when Winfield S. purchased his brother's half interest and became the sole owner. At that time the Whittner Lumber Company was being organized and Harry C. Wanamaker became a stock holder in the company, and in May, 1898, was elected Secretary and Manager. Mr. Wanamaker is a member of the Suffern Fire Commission. In 1882 he was elected to the office of Justice of the Peace, which office he held continuously until 1898. He is a member of Ramapo Lodge, No. 589, F. and A. M., and Eureka Chapter, No. 282, R. A. M. He is also a member of the Hudson River Commandery, Knights Templar, of Newburgh, and Mecca Temple, Mystic Shrine, of New York. In 1893 Mr. Wanamaker married Miss Minnie Bedell, of Brooklyn, N. Y. They have three children: Helen E., Otis Douglas and Edna Louise. The Wanamakers originally came from the Palatinate of the Rhine, and in 1660 settled near Hoboken, N. J. In 1687 John Wanamaker settled near Suffern at what is now Mahwah, N. J., where he took up a considerable tract of land on which he erected a homestead, which is still standing. The property, however, has long since passed out of the hands of the Wanamaker family. Mr. Wanamaker's father, Henry J., was born in Suffern September 5, 1812, and died in 1887.

ELMER VAN ORDEN was born September 21, 1867, at Tallmans, N. Y. He attended the public schools there and after leaving school learned the plumbing and steam fitting trade. In 1892 he established himself in this business on Main street, Spring Valley. He also carries a stock of stoves and tin-ware. Elmer VanOrden is a member of the Odd Fellows and is a capable and esteemed citizen of the village. John Henry VanOrden, father of Elmer VanOrden, is of Holland descent, a native of Spring Valley, and with the exception of two years in New York he has always lived in Rockland county. His father, Thomas, was also born in this vicinity. The children of Thomas and Catherine (Myers) VanOrden were: Eliza, married Abram VanZant of Spring Valley; Anna Maria, died young; Catherine, married Abram Blauvelt of New City; Hannah Jane, married Abram Blauvelt of Nanuet; Maria, married Frederick VanHouten, of Spring Valley; Peter, died young; John H., married Ann Ackerman, as above; Stephen, married Elizabeth Bogert of Tallmans; Ann Lavina, died young. When twenty-one

years of age John Henry VanOrden married Ann Ackerman and moved to Tallmans. Here Mr. VanOrden carried on the blacksmith business for forty years. In 1896 he returned to Spring Valley, where he now resides retired from active business. His family consists of three children: Cornelia, married to James Edward Hunter; Elmer, unmarried; Frank, married to Gertrude Young. Cornelia and James Edward Hunter have three children, Joseph, John and Martin. Frank, who married Gertrude Young, has two children, Helen and Harold.

WILLIAM P. VAN PELT, who is living on a fine farm of fifty acres near Nanuet, has been a lifelong agriculturalist, as was his father before him. In every detail of farm life he is thoroughly practical and the neat appearance of his place bears testimony to the thrift and industry of the owner. He was born November 6th, 1832, in Queens county, L. I., and is of Holland descent. His great grandfather came to this country from Holland and settled on Long Island. His father, Peter VanPelt, was born at Perth Amboy, and was a carpenter and boat builder by trade, which he carried on in conjunction with farming. Our subject attended the public schools and assisted his father on the farm until 1878, when he removed to Rockland county and purchased his present farm, one of the best in point of improvement in the county. Our subject married in April, 1862, Miss Henrietta Cooper of New York city. To Mr. and Mrs. VanPelt there have been born thirteen children, eight of whom are living, viz.: William, Emma, Clara, Annie, Harriet, George, Edward and John. William is married to Miss Lucretia Bates of West Nyack, and resides in Pennsylvania, and follows farming; they have one child. Emma is married to John Bates, butcher, of Nyack, and has two children. Clara is married to Charles Sickles, carpenter, of Nyack, and they have two children. Annie is married to Frank Ryson, farmer, near Nanuet, and has two children. Harriet is married to R. Drake, farmer, whose property adjoins Mr. VanPelt's; they have one child. George, Edward and John, the youngest of the family, are yet at home with their parents. Mr. VanPelt while a resident of Long Island was elected Alderman for the year 1876. As a citizen he is progressive, able and honorable, and the record of his life, both public and private, is blameless.

RICHARD E. KING is a native of Ireland, having been born in Tralee, county of Kerry. His father, Richard King, Sr., was a blacksmith by trade, but during the later years of his residence in Ireland was engaged in the leather business quite extensively. The subject of this sketch received a good education in the schools of his native place, and also at times worked in his father's establishment, thereby obtaining a thorough knowledge of the manufacture of shoes from a workman's standpoint. At the age of fifteen the family removed to this country, locating in Brooklyn. From 1867 and for five years thereafter, Richard E. was employed in a Brooklyn shoe factory, and in 1872 accepted a position as foreman in the shoe manufacturing concern of J. O. Whitehouse, one of the oldest concerns of the kind in the country, located at Poughkeepsie. He remained with this firm two years. In 1874 he took a similar position with Mr. Jackman of Brooklyn, who in 1876 removed his plant to Nyack. He held the position of foreman with this firm until 1893, when he was appointed by Sheriff Dickey to the office of Under Sheriff, and also served as sealer of weights and measures during his administration. While holding the office of Under Sheriff and until 1897 he was engaged as salesman for the George Hillard Shoe Manufacturing Company of New York. In 1897 Mr. King established the shoe manufacturing business in Nyack which he is now successfully conducting. His factory has a capacity of four hundred pairs of ladies' and children's shoes per day, employs about sixty hands and is situated at the corner of Jackson avenue and Washington street. Mr. King has at various times served as Excise Commissioner, Village Trustee, Chairman of the Orangetown Democratic town committee, and as a member of the Board of Sewer Commissioners. He is a member of Court Tappan Zee, Foresters of America, a Trustee in St. Ann's R. C. Church and President of the Men's Society of that church. In 1875 he married Miss Mary Reddy, of New York. They have five children living: Lillian, Richard E., Jr., Mary K., Alice and Joseph L.

GEORGE WEIMER was born at Wurtemberg, Germany, February 23, 1865. At the age of 23 he came to America. During the five years succeeding his arrival in this country he was engaged in various occupations. For a time he resided in New York. He then removed to Connecticut and then resided for a year or two in Georgia. In 1890 he was united in marriage with Elizabeth Ehrhardt, a native of

Bavaria, Germany. They have four children: William, Matilda, Elise and Mary. In 1893 Mr. Weimer removed to New City and opened the Union Hotel, which he is conducting to-day, and which has proved a very profitable investment. Mr. Weimer is a thorough, painstaking business man, zealous and careful in his undertakings and enjoys a reputation for strict integrity and honest dealings in the community in which he resides. He is a member of the Benevolent Society of New City and of the New City Fire Department.

THE TORSWOLD FARM. Located within a half-mile of the village of New City lies this celebrated dairy farm. It was formerly called the "Stevens Farm," although it has been in the possession of the Carnochan family since the present proprietor was ten years of age. Dr. Carnochan, a wealthy New York physician, purchased it as a summer home and it came into the possession of Mrs. Harriet Frances VanZandt, his daughter, through inheritance. Mrs. VanZandt personally supervises the place. The farm house is an old Dutch mansion beautifully situated upon an eminence overlooking a wide stretch of mountain and valley scenery. With Tor Mountain and Short and Long Clove in the distance a view is presented inexpressibly grand and beautiful. It is, however, not alone a beautiful spot; it is also a thriving, well kept farm, which lends to this place its chief significance. Here are modern barns, with the latest improved sanitary arrangements. Artisian wells supply crystal water to each stall; concrete floors, wash basins for milk men, separate apartments for straining the milk, washing, filling, capping, icing and sterilizing the bottles, with a cold storage compartment for holding milk until hour of shipment, are a few of the features of this up-to-date dairy. All the milk and cream is inspected and certified pure by the Milk Commissioner of New York and so branded. The Torswold herd of approximately one hundred head of the finest registered Jersey cows furnishes pure, rich products to a select New York market. Mrs. VanZandt, the proprietor, was educated in Europe and America. She has her home filled with rare antiques in furniture, china, old silver, cut glass and other heirlooms which have descended to her from the Morris, Ludlow, Carnochan and VanZandt families. Portraits of her father and grandmother by Sir Thomas Lawrence are very highly prized. Mrs. VanZandt has an ideal home and a thriving farm, and certainly has every detail pertaining to the business thoroughly systema-

tized. Her two sons, Thomas W. and Lewis Morris, are at present in Columbia College. She has two daughters, Mrs. Richard Mortimer Young and Mary Alida Ludlow, also a little boy, William Wyant VanZandt.

WILLIAM AUGUSTUS SERVEN was born at the old homestead of his family, on the Nyaack Turnpike, at Nanuet, N. Y., May 17, 1868. He is the son of James Serven, the son of Aury Serven, who was the son of Abram Serven, who died in 1806, and whose father came from Holland. All were prosperous farmers and all lived at the old homestead at Nanuet. His father's mother, Martha Blauvelt, was a daughter of Nicholas Blauvelt, who was a son of Joseph Blauvelt, born in Orangetown September 17, 1740. The Blauvelt family has been connected with Rockland county since the earliest times, and was represented in the colony which purchased lands from the Indians and settled Orangetown. Lambert Ariansen, one of the patentees, was married to Margaret Blauvelt. The names of Abram Blauvelt and wife appear in a census of the county taken in 1702. A record of the old Tappan Church for the year 1728 bears the name of Johannes "Blawfelt" as a member of the church. The family originally came from Holland. The mother of William A. Serven was Sarah Oliver Swenarton, whose father was Thomas H. Swenarton, a prosperous contractor of New York city. The Swenarton family can be traced back to the year 1100, during the time of William the Conqueror, who presented a valuable tract of land to William Rufus Swenarton, for saving his life on the battlefield. In the course of time the family divided; one branch settled at Londonderry, in the North of Ireland, and became established in the Quaker faith. From this branch of the Swenarton family Mrs. Serven was descended. Her grandfather came to this country in 1790. The coat-of-arms of the Swenarton family is a wild boar. Swenarton Hall is in Staffordshire, England. The mother of Mrs. Serven was Margaret Ashton-Swenarton, who was born in Wheeling, W. Va., in 1815, and later moved to Ohio, where her family, the Ashtons, became prominent. The mother of Margaret Ashton (Swenarton) was born in county Armagh, Ireland, of an Episcopalian family. William A. Serven first attended the public schools at Nanuet, then Bannister's Academy at Park Ridge, N. J., and completed his education at the Hackensack High School, from which he was graduated in 1885. Upon leaving school he accepted a position

with a hardware firm in New York city, with which he continued for six years, until just before his marriage, when he came to Pearl River and built a cottage on Serven's Heights. He then entered into business with his father, who is one of the oldest merchants and conducting one of the largest mercantile interests in Rockland county. He was married, October 14, 1891, in St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Spring Valley by the Rev. Thomas Stephens to Lulu Alma Edsall of Spring Valley, a daughter of Isaac W. Edsall, Port Warden of New York city, who resides at Spring Valley, at which place his daughter was born, February 3d, 1872. She is a graduate of the Normal College. Mr. and Mrs. William A. Serven have had three children: Woolsey Austin Serven, born May 8, 1892; Reginald Grant Serven, born September 17, 1897, died September 17, 1898; James Edsall Serven, born December 20, 1899. Besides being in business with his father, Mr. Serven is interested in real estate, is Postmaster at Pearl River and owns and manages the "Brookside Ice Cream Parlors," one of the finest places of the sort in the county. He is a Director of the Eureka Savings and Loan Association and was an incorporator of the Park Building and Savings Association and of Unique Hall. Though an active Republican worker, he has never accepted political office, except his present position as Postmaster, to which he was appointed in 1897. He has been a delegate to some of Rockland county's most important conventions, is an Odd Fellow and a member of the Royal Arcanum, and attends St. Stephen's Episcopal Church.

ULYSSES G. HARING is a native of Rockland county. He was born at Tappan July 13, 1865. At the age of five years his parents removed to Englewood, N. J., where he received his education. In 1878 the family came to Suffern and for a time he attended the public school, and in 1881 began learning the plumbing business, following that as a trade until 1892, when he purchased the plumbing establishment of T. N. Washburn, in Suffern, and has since conducted the same. In September, 1900, Cornelius Kievit of Passaic, N. J., purchased an interest in the business, and since then it has been run as a company with Mr. Haring as manager. In 1890 he married Miss Lillie Banta, of Mahwah, N. J. They have one boy, Ralph, and reside at Mahwah, N. J., about two miles south of Suffern. Mr. Haring has served as Justice of the Peace for Mahwah and has also been a member of the Board of Edu-

cation of that place. He belongs to the Junior Order of United American Mechanics. The ancestors of the subject of this sketch originally settled at Tappan in the early part of the eighteenth century. George N. Haring, his father, was born at Tappan and followed the trade of wheelwright until a few years previous to his death, which occurred in May, 1900. His mother, Mrs. Martha DePew (Haring) is still living.

G. T. ODELL, Congers, is a native of Yonkers, N. Y. He received his education in the schools there and early in life learned the trade of a printer, and worked at this trade for some years. He later traveled on the road for Vanderveer & Holmes, afterward the National Biscuit Co., and in 1890 he located in Congers. In 1898 he was appointed Postmaster of the village, which office he still holds. Mr. Odell has served as delegate to numerous conventions and also as chairman of the County Committee. He is a member of the Board of Education of Congers and an honorary member of the Fire Department. Mr. Odell is a hard worker for the welfare of Congers and has been identified with every movement having the good of the village in view. He and Joseph Kelly established the improvement association and this year (1902) he expects to see very effective improvements made in this village. His family consists of wife, formerly Miss Emma K. Graham, and two children: Helen R. and Catherine W. He is a member of Rising Star Lodge, 450, F. and A. M., of Yonkers, N. Y.

T. J. MC GOWAN, the well known undertaker of Haverstraw, has been engaged in the business for over twenty years and from the beginning gained success; he has in every instance made friends of his customers. He is a man of upright life and fair dealing and merits prosperity on account of his worthy characteristics and his good business methods. He was born in Haverstraw in December, 1862, where he attended the public school and later graduated from the Mountain Institute. At the age of sixteen he started out in life by learning the tinsmith trade, which he followed for nearly three years. In 1880 he opened up an undertaking business in Haverstraw, which he has made a success of. He opened a branch office in Yonkers in November, 1901. He has held the office of Coroner for the county for six years, 1893-5 and 1899-1901; was also Secretary of the Board of Health from 1899 to 1901. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Columbus of New York city and of the Elks

of Yonkers. Mr. McGowan was married September 1st, 1884, to Mary F. Murphy, daughter of Thomas Murphy of Haverstraw. They have had three children. The eldest, Adelaide, died at the age of seven years; Junaita, who is now ten years old, and Thomas, seven years. Terrence McGowan, father of the above, is living retired in Haverstraw, where he is well known and respected.

M. F. DEMING of Tappan was born in Orange county, N. Y., August 20, 1871. In 1898 the Cereo Company of Tappan was incorporated and Mr. Deming was elected Manager and Treasurer, which position he now holds.

CHARLES A. KLEIN was born at Jersey City Heights, N. J., and received his education at that place. In 1883 he came to Nyack and the three years following was employed in the meat markets of this city, and until 1890 served in a similar capacity in Hoboken, N. J. In 1890 he returned to Nyack and opened a meat market and grocery store combined on South Broadway, where he now conducts business, enjoying the patronage of a large share of the Nyack trade. Having thoroughly mastered every detail of the business, he always places before his customers the best the market affords. Mr. Klein is a K. of P., and a much respected and esteemed business man of Nyack, whose word is as good as his bond.

NYACK MILITARY ACADEMY. The present Superintendent of the Nyack Military Academy, Edwin Stanton Field, was born in Philadelphia in 1869. His education was obtained in private schools of that city and he graduated from the Hamilton School in the class of 1886, Magna cum Laude. From there he entered the Scientific School of the University of Pennsylvania, and subsequently received the degree of M. B. He then taught for two years in the Hamilton School, Philadelphia, and the following year he spent in traveling in the Western States. The succeeding five years he was engaged in teaching in representative schools of the country, including the Ohio Military Institute of Cincinnati, Ohio, and the New York Military Academy, Cornwall, N. Y. In 1899 he was given the degree of Bachelor of Literature by the University of Illinois. In 1900 he founded and became the first Superintendent of this Academy. The Nyack Military Academy is a boarding school

for refined young men and boys and has a large estate on Broadway, whose continuation runs through Nyack, and while it is the first year of its existence, arrangements are being made for a school of very large numbers. The Board of Advisors up to 1903 is as follows: Mr. Truman H. Baldwin, of Nyack; Mr. George F. Miller, of Nyack; Mr. Beniah Y. Frost, of Nyack; Mr. J. T. Kirby, of New York city; Mr. James Pacey, of Nyack; Mr. J. M. Saxton, of Bridgeport, Conn.; Hon. Arthur S. Tompkins, Congressman from N. Y. State; Hon. George Dickey, of the State Legislature; Hon. Edmond H. Driggs, of Brooklyn; Hon. Edward H. Brandt, of Watertown, Wis.; Major William A. Stokes, of 23d Regiment of Brooklyn.

HART BOUTON HARGRAVES is a native of Montclair, N. J. He attended school at Bloomfield, N. J., and in New York city, after which he entered the establishment of A. & W. Sprague as a designer and remained there for five years. In 1871 Mr. Hargraves accepted a position with Garner & Co., at Garnerville, and has continued with the works there ever since. In 1870 Mr. Hargraves married Miss Ida L. Wade and their family consists of three children: Henry, Frederick and Ida May, all of whom are married. Henry Hargraves's wife was Miss Alice Radcliff. Frederick Hargraves married Gertrude Maslin and Ida May Hargraves married J. George Crawford. Mr. Hargraves is a 32d Degree Mason and a Past Master of Stony Point Lodge of Haverstraw, and a member of Mecca Temple, New York city. He is a member of Iona Lodge, No. 128, Knights of Pythias, of which he has been Chancellor Commander; Highland Chapter, No. 52, R. A. M., Newburg, and of Hudson River Commandery, No. 35, K. T. He is also a Past Grand of Sequel Lodge, No. 542, I. O. O. F., Haverstraw, N. Y.

ORIENT C. PINCKNEY was born at Grand View, Rockland county, N. Y., May 24, 1872. If there is any truth in the old adage that "the seventh son of a seventh son is born with a clear insight into future events," certainly Mr. Pinckney should be very successful in all his undertakings, for he is the seventh son of a seventh son. His father's family consisted of seven sons, he being the youngest. Stephen R. Pinckney, his father, resided at Grand View for thirty-seven years. In the summer of '63 he with his wife spent a few weeks at Grand View and they were so delighted with the place that they returned the fol-

lowing summer and purchased the property upon which they had resided the summer previous. This they enlarged and rebuilt into an elegant home. Of the seven sons only three survive: William, Courtney and Orient. Orient received an excellent education and early resolved upon an active business career. In 1899 he became a partner in the insurance brokerage house of Samuels, Cornwall & Stephens, of 62 William street, New York. In the latter part of 1901 he was the prime mover in establishing the Church Motor and Launch Co. in Nyack, of which he is Vice-President and General Manager. His company is building a very fine line of launches for a high class New York trade, which they secure through the New York office at 62 William street. There is no doubt but this enterprise has been of great benefit to the village. Few business men have done more in a lifetime for the general welfare of a place than has this company in establishing such an enterprise where certainly such enterprises are badly needed.

THOMAS GARDINER, of Highland Falls, N. Y., was born in England November 11th, 1848. Early in life he learned the baker's trade at which he worked for a time before he came to this country, in 1868; he also worked at his trade after coming here, in Newburgh, N. Y., and later engaged in railroading and moved to Port Jervis, N. Y. There he lived for twenty-five years highly respected and esteemed. He served as Excise Commissioner for six years and was identified with local affairs. In 1890 he moved to Highland Falls, N. Y., and established the Gardiner Hotel, which he still conducts. Mr. Gardiner's wife was Miss Annie Colgan and his family consists of three children, James F., Mary and Thomas, Jr.

JOHN HEITLINGER is a native of Germany, born in Baden and educated at that place. He was engaged at various occupations until twenty years of age, when he was obliged to begin regular service in the German army. After serving a year in the ranks, and army life becoming very distasteful to him, he decided to cast his fortunes across the water, and landed at New York in June, 1870. Mr. Heitlinger immediately came to Stony Point and for a number of years was engaged with a brick machinery manufactory. In 1874 he took up the occupation of farming, which he still continues. In 1893, with Mr. Patrick Sliney, he engaged in the manufacture of brick, their yards being located at

Grassy Point. In 1898 Mr. Sliney retired and Mr. E. O. Rose purchased his interest, which he still retains, and the business is conducted by Heitlinger and Rose jointly. In 1870, just previous to his departure for America, Mr. Heitlinger married Miss Anna Flacks, of Baden. They have five children: Margaret, Anna, Katie, Emily and John A. Anna married James Nutley, who is engaged in the cloth refinishing business in New York. Emily married Leslie O. Lynch, a teacher in the New York public schools. Mr. Heitlinger and family reside on the farm but a short drive from the village of Stony Point.

BENJAMIN V. DOLPH, M. D., was born at Port Jervis, Orange county, N. Y., October 18th, 1875. He received an education in the Port Jervis public schools and the Port Jervis Academy, graduating from the latter institution in 1893. In 1895 he entered Syracuse University, taking up the study of medicine, and graduated from the medical department in 1899. He was engaged in hospital practice the year following at Syracuse, and also at Bellevue Hospital, New York. In November, 1890, he came to Suffern and began the practice of medicine, his office being located on Lafayette avenue. Dr. Dolph is a member of Ramapo Lodge, F. and A. M., and Eureka Chapter, R. A. M., Hudson River Commandery, No. 25, and is also a member of the Rockland County Medical Society. He is the Health Officer for the village of Hillburn. His father, Prof. J. M. Dolph, is a native of Tompkins county, N. Y. He for years conducted a preparatory school at Port Jervis and is now Superintendent of the Port Jervis public schools, having held that position since 1872. He is a brother of the late Senator Dolph of Oregon.

GEORGE O. TAYLOR is a native of Pawtucket, R. I., born April 14th, 1835. After receiving a public school education, he entered the print works in his native town as a color maker. Later he was an employee of the Allen Print Works of Providence, R. I., where he remained until the outbreak of the War of the Rebellion. He then enlisted in the First Rhode Island Volunteers, and with this regiment participated in the Battles of Bull Run and Harper's Ferry and in numerous skirmishes. At the expiration of his time of enlistment he was discharged, he immediately re-enlisted in the Eleventh Rhode Island Volunteers, in which he served nine months, principally in Virginia.

He was mustered out at Providence with the rank of Sergeant in 1863. Mr. Taylor after being mustered out, again entered the employ of the Print Works in Providence and remained there until 1865, when he accepted a position with Garner & Co. of West Haverstraw, and moved into Rockland county, N. Y. He remained with Garner & Co. until 1871, when he established the grocery business which he still conducts. Mr. Taylor is a Free Mason and has served in different public offices since making his home in West Haverstraw, chief among which are those of Justice of the Peace, Road Commissioner and Auditor and Treasurer of the village. He was married to Miss Sarah A. Fry, of Providence, R. I., and their family consists of two sons and one daughter: Everett G., Mary Maud and Charles A. Taylor. Everett G. Taylor's wife was Miss Elizabeth Moffatt, and Charles A. Taylor married Miss Fanny Waldron.

WILLIAM T. PURDY was born in Haverstraw September 24, 1846. When only eleven years of age he went as cook on a sailing vessel plying on the Hudson river. He followed the water for nine years, occupying the various positions from cook to that of the office of first mate. After leaving the water he worked for about fifteen months in a meat market. March 7th, 1870, he began work with H. B. McKenzie, subsequently McKenzie & Rowan, undertakers and furniture dealers of Haverstraw, with whom he was employed nine years. He then, with William Abrams, bought out the business of McKenzie & Rowan, which they conducted until March, 1880, when Mr. Purdy bought his partner's one-half interest in the business and has since conducted it at the old location on Main street. In addition to his large undertaking business Mr. Purdy also carries a stock of furniture, carpets, etc., and is perhaps the leading merchant in that line in Haverstraw. In 1868 he married Ella Edwards, of Ulster county. They have had ten children, five of whom have died. The five living are: Heman M., traveling salesman for W. A. Rogers of New York city; William A., employed with American Narrow Fabric Company, Reading, Pa.; Florence M., teacher in the public schools of Haverstraw; C. Rodger, student, Syracuse University; Helen L., living at home. Mr. Purdy is one of the prominent men of Haverstraw, conducts a thriving business and is very highly esteemed, both in business and social circles. He is a Mason and a member of the Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias. He has ever

taken an active interest in the welfare of his native village, always lending a helping hand, either financially or otherwise, in the furtherance of public enterprises. He has served six years as trustee of the village of Haverstraw and two years on the Board of Education. Mr. Purdy has been a member of the M. E. Church since 1867, and at present is a member of the Board of Trustees, Superintendent of the Sunday school and Secretary of the Epworth League.

CHARLES EBERLING was born in New City May 27, 1868, and received an education in the public schools of that place. Shortly after leaving school he took up the trade of shoe making, which he followed for a number of years, working in a factory owned and operated by his brother Joseph. In 1892 Joseph Eberling died and Charles, with his two remaining brothers, Henry and George, purchased the factory, which they jointly conducted until 1899, when Charles and George purchased the one-third interest of Henry, who thereafter devoted his time to agricultural pursuits. The concern ran along smoothly and prosperously until July 18th, 1901, when George Eberling was struck by lightning, killing him instantly, since which time Charles Eberling has carried on the business and is sole owner of the same. April 13th, 1890, he married Margarette Durschang of New City. They have two children, May, born January 26th, 1891, and Charles, born September 9th, 1897. Mr. Eberling is a charter member of the New City Fire Department, a charter member of the Foresters and a charter member of the Spring Valley Red Men. His father, Henry Eberling, is a native of Germany, coming to this country in 1849, when he settled in New City. He took up quite a tract of land at that time, and until recent years followed farming as an occupation. He has, however, disposed of his land and now lives a retired life in New City.

JOHN V. TREACY was born at West Point, N. Y., September 8th, 1873. He received his education in the public school at West Point, High School of Highland Falls, N. Y., and the New Paltz State Normal School. Mr. Treacy then engaged in teaching. He has been connected with the Highland Falls High School for the past six years, of which he is assistant principal. In 1901 he married Miss Mabel Chatfield, of Cornwall, N. Y. He has held the office of Town Clerk of the Town of Highland for five years and has been for some time Treasurer

of the Highland Falls Fire Department. Mr. Treacy is also a Grand Knight of the Highland Falls Council, Knights of Columbus.

WILLIAM H. SPRINGSTEEN, of Pearl River, was born in the Town of Ramapo, near the village of Monsey, March 29, 1847. His education was acquired in the schools of the neighborhood. At an early age he began learning the carpenter's trade, and for a number of years was employed by different builders in New York, Jersey City, Paterson and other Eastern cities until 1881, when he accepted a position as foreman for a contractor and builder's establishment in Dakota. He held this position about four years; then returned east and for the following five years was employed in New York. In 1890 he came to Pearl River and established his present business, that of contractor and builder. Mr. Springsteen is a staunch Democrat, the recognized leader of his party in Pearl River, but with one exception has never accepted office. For some four years, however, he served as Excise Commissioner for Rockland county. He is a member of Viking Lodge, No. 761, I. O. O. F. The great great grandfather of William Springsteen came from Germany as a Hessian soldier with General Wolf in command, to battle with the French during the French and English War. At the close of the war he settled on a tract of land near what is now Verplanck's Point, in Westchester county, and at the opening of the Revolutionary War his youngest son, John, enlisted in the cause of liberty and right, serving his country faithfully until the close of the war, when he purchased property in Rockland county near the village of Monsey and devoted his life to milling and agricultural pursuits. His son, Cornelius, lived and died on a farm nearby and also to some extent followed the trade of mason and builder. Here was born his son, Wesley Springsteen, father of the subject of this sketch, who, like his father before him, was a mason and builder as well as a farmer.

WILLIAM S. TAYLOR, M. D., a descendant of a prominent New York family, was born in New York city, February 18th, 1859. His education was begun in private schools of New York. He afterward attended the Wilcox Military Academy at Stamford, Conn., going from there to Wilmington Conference College, at Dover, Del., from which institution he graduated in 1877, with the expectation of entering West Point Military Academy, for which he had been prepared, but decided to

study medicine instead, and the following year he took up the study of that profession with Prof. James R. Wood, who was at that time the most skillful surgeon in America. At the same time he continued his studies in Bellevue Hospital Medical College, from which he was graduated in 1881. He then opened an office and began the practice of medicine in New York city. He held the position of Assistant Surgeon at Bellevue Outdoor Department under Prof. Alex. B. Mott; also assistant physician to the Actors' Fund, and was a member of the New York Medical Societies. He is at present a member of the Rockland County Medical Association. In 1881 he was united in marriage with Miss Ella J. Lyman, daughter of Asa Lyman of New York city. They have two children: Margaret and James R. In 1894 he removed with his family to Spring Valley, since which time he has been prominent in all affairs of interest to the county.

RICHARD BREWSTER MARKS. Michael Marks, the ancestor of Richard B. Marks, came originally from England, settled at Tarrytown and afterwards moved to Peekskill. His family consisted of four sons: Abraham, Moses, Levi and Alfred, and five girls. Abraham and Alfred moved to the east side of the Hudson about the year 1828. Richard B. Marks is the son of Alfred Marks and Mary Brewster, his wife, and was born in 1830. After leaving school he was engaged in farming up to 1857, when he suffered a severe sunstroke; since then he has lived retired from active affairs. He has also been engaged in mercantile business and the manufacture of brick. He is the possessor of considerable property and its care has pretty thoroughly occupied his attention since his illness in '57. Mr. Marks married Catherine Marks, a daughter of Sampson Marks, and has three children living: Chas. A., George H. and Annie J. Charles A. married Joanna Osman. George H. married Estelle Lent, and Annie J. married Sidney White. Mr. Marks has served as Superintendent of the Poor of the county for nine years and as Justice of the Peace for six years. He has been Elder in the Presbyterian Church for twenty years and is one of the most highly esteemed citizens of the county. His son conducts a general store at Stony Point.

GERTRUDE HAMMOND HARPER, M. D., was born in Bavaria. She received her education in Vienna, Austria, and early in her remark-

able career evinced a strong aptitude for political liberty, at that time so common among the more intelligent subjects of Austria. For a long time she went dressed as a boy to give her freedom of action in carrying important dispatches to and fro, thereby serving the cause of liberty. When her life became endangered through having during a number of years received and cared for editorials for the ultra-liberal paper, "The Wasp," she decided to come at once to America, the land of the free. Accordingly, she sailed in 1853 in the "Lady Franklin," upon which vessel she met her future husband, Gerard Beekman Hammond. Shortly after landing in this country they were married and settled in Rockland county, where Dr. Hammond became celebrated as a surgeon as well as a physician. Shortly after he had commenced practicing he remarked one day to his wife: "I wish there was some woman qualified to minister to their own sex, especially in diseases peculiar to the sex, as it is very embarrassing for a male physician. Mrs. Hammond at once made a characteristic reply, saying: "Why should it not be so? Why should women not become qualified as well as men? Women have brains as well as men, and why should they not use them? I will use mine." At once she commenced to study, notwithstanding that she understood very little of the English language. This soon became known and if the doctor was absent when a call came for him, she was requested to fill his place until he could answer in person, through which means she gathered bed-side experience, which is more valuable than theory gained from books. She had already attended over four hundred obstetrical cases without an accident when she joined her husband, who had become a volunteer surgeon of the Federal army in 1862, in order to assist him in his duties and give succor to the sick and suffering soldiers. This lasted for two years. When they returned from the seat of war, both broken in health, she became a student at "The New York Medical College and Hospital for Women," which had just been inaugurated, and in 1866 graduated therefrom, but being the only graduate she was requested to join the class of '67, when a public demonstration would take place at Steinway Hall. Through being recognized and cordially received by some army surgeons who were present at the classics, she was the means of establishing an amicable footing at the Clinics for the women students, whom the men students seemed determined to keep from attending the Clinics. When an edifice for an Episcopal Church was much needed at Spring Valley in 1871, Dr. Harper decided to procure funds for lum-

her by getting up a concert, and she accomplished what had never been done in this county before or since. After securing the use of the Reformed Church of Spring Valley, she sold all the middle pews for \$10 each, all chairs in the isle, \$2 each; all the other seats and standing room, \$1 each. She secured an extra free train to take the people to their homes as far as Englewood. The audience was so enthusiastic that a repetition was requested, but it could not be done, as the artists could not be held. After the death of Dr. Hammond she went to New York city for several years, where she became a member of the "Literary Society of St. Marks," where her lectures and essays were highly appreciated, and the president of the society, Rev. Dr. J. H. Rylance, said that Dr. Harper was always interesting her audiences with her intellectual brightness, humor and strong good sense, and that she always drew highly intelligent audiences. In consequence of an article of which she was the author, in the "New York Medical Examiner," entitled "Women's Diseases from an Insurance Point of View," in 1892, the rates were lowered on all future policies on women's lives. Dr. Harper wrote numerous articles for leading medical journals, which were always widely copied. Dr. Harper may be justly proud of her record as an Obstetrician, as during her long career of activity and the number of cases swelling nigh on three thousand, she has up to the date of writing never met with the loss of a single case. Dr. Harper is the pioneer woman physician of Rockland county and has met with well earned success and popularity.

REV. C. G. O'KEEFFE was born in New York city May 2, 1853. He attended the city public schools and later St. John's College, and then continued his theological studies in the Pontifical Roman Seminary at Rome, Italy, from which he was ordained priest April 16th, 1880. Father O'Keeffe then received the appointment of assistant to Rev. Dr. McGlynn at St. Stephen's, New York. He also served as curate of St. Joseph's and St. Gabriel's of New York. In 1886 he was sent to establish missions in the Bahama Islands, from which he returned three years later to his curacy at St. Gabriel's. During his residence in the Bahamas Father O'Keeffe erected a church, rectory, convent for Sisters of Charity and a school for negro children. In 1891 Father O'Keeffe was appointed rector of Highland Falls and West Point. In 1899 he succeeded in obtaining permission from Congress to erect a

Catholic church on the military reservation at West Point. This beautiful stone church situated at the intersection of Fort Putnam and Cemetery roads, was erected free of debt by contributions largely by Father O'Keeffe and his co-religionists, and was consecrated June 10th, 1900. The church is Gothic in design and the interior is most richly furnished with marble altars, chancel railing and holy water fountains. The windows are of Tiffany glass, while the carpeting, pews, etc., are quite in keeping in richness and beauty. Father O'Keeffe is doing a grand work for his church. He is well known as an excellent administrator, a profound theologian and in general knowledge his attainments are wide and varied.

PATRICK J. LYNCH was born in Haverstraw. His primary education was received in the public schools. He afterwards attended the Manhattan College and later took a course in the Poughkeepsie Business University. In 1890 he went to Virginia, where he engaged in the manufacture of bricks. Three years from that time he sold out and returned to Haverstraw. Upon returning to Haverstraw he, together with his brother, established a brick business, which they are now conducting. In 1899 he started a sand business in Roseton, which he managed in connection with his other business operations, and for a time Sheriff F. J. Weiant was interested with him in this enterprise, but later sold out his interest to Mr. Lynch. Mr. Lynch has always taken a deep and active interest in political matters. He is at present serving the county as Under Sheriff, having been appointed to that office by Sheriff Weiant January 1st, 1901. In 1895 he was united in marriage to Miss Alice Warburton of Haverstraw. They have had four children: Louis, Genevieve and Alice; one child, a boy, died in infancy. His father, Patrick Lynch, has been identified with Haverstraw's leading industry for years, as a brick manufacturer, coming here from the county of Cavan, Ireland, in 1849.

JOHN M. GIBBS, Principal of the Spring Valley schools, was born at Livonia, N. Y., August 31st, 1864. His preliminary education was acquired in the public schools of that place, after which he entered the State Normal School at Geneseo, N. Y., graduating in 1887. He then accepted the position of Principal of the public schools of Webster, N. Y., and the following year was tendered and accepted a similar position in the schools of East Bloomfield, N. Y., where he remained two years. He

then entered the University of Rochester, where he studied two and one-half years, and later became a student of the New York University, from which he graduated. In February, 1893, he came to Spring Valley as Principal of the schools, which responsible position he still holds. Professor Gibbs is thoroughly qualified for the position. His is an office requiring energy, tact and force of character, as well as a high degree of education, and during the nine years in which he has served as Principal of the Spring Valley schools he has thoroughly demonstrated his fitness for the position. In 1887 he was united in marriage with Gertrude M. Merrell, of Geneseo, N. Y. They have two children, John Coe and Jay Merrell. Both Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs are members of the Spring Valley Dutch Reformed Church and Mr. Gibbs was for some time the superintendent of its Sunday school. Manson F. Gibbs, the father of our subject, is a retired farmer, living at Livonia, N. Y., where he was born in 1826. His wife, Julia Coe Gibbs, died in 1870. Their family consisted of three children: G. Arnold Gibbs, who lives at Livonia, N. Y.; Julian C. Gibbs, living at Dalton, Mass., and John M.

ESLER SHERWOOD is a native of Rockland county, having been born at Monsey, N. Y., March 5th, 1857. His education was acquired in the public schools of Monsey and in private schools of Piermont and Suffern. At the age of nineteen he entered his father's general store, where he remained as an assistant until 1894, when he became a partner in the business, which was thereafter conducted under the firm name of Esler Sherwood & Co., until August, 1901, when Mr. Sherwood became the sole proprietor. Mr. Sherwood has served three terms as Clerk for the Town of Ramapo. On his last election to that office he had the distinction of being the only candidate elected on the Democratic ticket. He is a member of Suffern Lodge, No. 589, F. and A. M., and Spring Valley Lodge, I. O. O. F. December 29, 1880, Mr. Sherwood was united in marriage with Cornelia E., daughter of Henry T. Tallman, of Tallmans, a descendant of the family of Tallmans that settled the districts west of Monsey, where Tallman Village now stands. They have seven children: Bertha, Russel, Lester, Velma, Mildred, Dilworth and Arletta. Mr. Sherwood's father, Levi Sherwood, was born in Rockland county in May, 1818. Until 1857 he devoted his time to agricultural pursuits and then purchased the grocery store in Monsey, which he successfully conducted until his retirement from active life, and which his

son Esler now conducts. On January 1st, 1840, Levi Sherwood married Maria Yeury and they have eight children, five of whom are living, viz.: Henry Edgar, Sarah Elizabeth, wife of Glode Requa, of Monsey; John Y., Esler and Matilda, wife of Henry C. Dilworth.

ELBERT TALMAN. In the year 1680 Douwe Talman emigrated from Holland to America. After remaining in New York city for a time, he purchased from the Government a strip of land one-half mile wide, extending from the Hudson river to Tappan. He was one of the original settlers of Rockland county. He erected a dwelling on his land in the vicinity of where the village of Tappan is now located, and there reared a family of hardy pioneers, some of whom figured in the wars of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Douwe's son, Harmanus, succeeded to the estate. One of the sons of Harmanus was the first Sheriff of Rockland county. Another son, Dowah (or Douwe) Harmanus, born in 1755, took an active part in the struggle for independence. His son, Peter D., was born at Tappan, married Catherine Iseman and inherited land purchased by his father, situated about one-mile south of Spring Valley. Here, in addition to the management of his farm, he conducted a general store that was known for miles around. He also took part in the war of 1812. In 1827 the first post office was established in the neighborhood and was called "Scotland." Peter D. Talman was appointed Postmaster. This office was discontinued in 1846, at which time the Spring Valley postoffice was established. Alfred Talman, son of Peter D., was born May 24, 1815, on the homestead farm, where he has lived all his life. January 10th, 1855, he married Sarah J. Osborn, of Fairfield county, Conn. They have had four children: Emily, Alfred, wife of Andrew T. Johnson of Spring Valley; Elbert and Annie, wife of Richard W. Osborn of Ridgefield, Conn. Elbert Talman, son of Alfred, was born November 8th, 1861, on the homestead farm. He attended the district school in the vicinity of his home and the Spring Valley Academy. Upon completing his education he devoted his time to assisting his father in the care and management of the farm and business affairs. In 1889 Elbert Talman married Eleanor C. Smith, daughter of T. Blanch Smith, M. D., of Nyack. They have two children: Lyman Alfred and Howard Parker. Mr. Talman has been a member for twelve years of the Board of Education. He was one of the incorporators of the First National Bank of Spring Valley, and has been a director in

this bank since its organization. He has for a number of years served as Secretary of the Rockland County Agricultural Society. Alfred Talmán, the father of our subject, resides with him, as does also his sister Emily.

WILLIAM F. BARRETT was born at Portland, Maine, August 10th, 1837. His education was acquired in the public schools of that place and Boston. At the age of thirteen he took a position as fireman on the Champlain and St. Lawrence R. R., running between Rouse's Point and Montreal. After serving four years as fireman he was given an engine and served the company as engineer about eighteen months, when he resigned and began learning the machinist's trade with the S. P. Ruggles Power Press Company. About a year following he was machinist for the Hinkley Locomotive Works. The following year he served as assistant engineer on the steamer Daniel Webster, plying between Portland and Bangor, when, his health failing, he returned to Boston and shortly thereafter was connected with the D. C. Hall Musical Instrument Co., in their mechanical department. He was also a member of the Hall's Boston Brass Band. He remained with this company until 1861, when at the breaking out of the war he became imbued with the popular spirit of patriotism and enlisted, thinking to join the rank and file and shoulder a musket. He was, however, at this time the snare drummer for the Second Battalion of Massachusetts Infantry, and instead of being sent to the front as he had hoped, was appointed instructor of all snare drummers entering the service of each regiment in the State and was stationed at Fort Warren, Camp Scott, Wooster and Readville, Mass, with the 42d Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteers. He was afterward transferred to the 15th Regiment and with them went to the front and participated in some notable engagements, among which was the Battle of Ball's Bluff. He was then returned to his old regiment, the 43d, and proceeded to the scene of hostilities. They were active participants in the Battles of Kingston, Whitehall, Newburn and Goldsboro. From the latter place the regiment made a forced march of 180 miles in ten days and succeeded in cutting off General Lee's supplies on their way to Richmond. While on picket duty a call for volunteers was made to run the blockade and carry supplies down the river to General Foster at Little Washington, North Carolina. Mr. Barrett with twelve others comprised this volunteer detachment. They made the

run from Ball's Bluff in the night, succeeded in eluding the enemy, left supplies for the army stationed there and returned the same night accompanied by General Foster, with the loss of but one man. This maneuver was practically the breaking up of Stonewall Jackson's notable siege of the forces of General Foster at Little Washington. The time of his enlistment having expired, he re-enlisted, this time with the First Heavy Artillery as head musician and gunner, stationed at Fort Constitution, where he was mustered out. In the fall of 1865 he took a position as machinist in a sugar refining machine manufactory at South Boston. He occupied that position a few months when he went to the West Indies as engineer in a sugar refining establishment. After a stay of a few months in the islands he contracted yellow fever and was obliged to return to the States. For thirteen years he was then with Gov. P. C. Cheney in New Hampshire erecting mills and running them. He then took the position of foreman for the S. C. Forsyth Machine Co. at Manchester, N. H., in 1884, and in 1893 resigned that position to accept the one he now holds, that of foreman of the machine department of the Empire Engine and Motor Co. of Orangeburgh, N. Y. Mr. Barrett was married in 1857 to Miss Julia E. Holmes. They have one son, W. H. Barrett, born in 1860, who was with his father in the electric works until 1901, when he accepted a position with his brother-in-law, in Portland, Me. Mr. Barrett is identified with the Masons, Odd Fellows, K. of P., and G. A. R., in all of which he has filled important offices and positions. He also was for two terms Supreme Chief of the American Order of Steam Engineers, while a resident of Manchester.

URIAH F. WASHBURN. For many years a name prominent in the Hudson river brick industry was that of Uriah Fields Washburn. Born at Port Chester, N. Y., January 23, 1829, the son of Benjamin Kipp Washburn, he was descended, on his father's side, from the Kipps, and on his mother's side, she being a Vail, from a long Quaker ancestry. The family came to Haverstraw when Uriah was a youth, and at a period when the village was experiencing a strong industrial impetus. As brick-making had just entered upon a new era and offered exceptional opportunities, he decided to learn that business in preference to any other, having an ambition to become a large manufacturer. Forceful and capable, he acquired a complete and expert knowledge of the trade, and the year 1855 found him engaged in business for himself, while yet but a very

young man. His first brickyard was on the Conger property, Grassy Point, N. Y. Mr. Washburn's business career was one of uninterrupted success through life. He accumulated large interests, especially in the brick industry, both in this county and at East Kingston, N. Y. Mr. Washburn was also one of the organizers and the first President of the People's Bank of Haverstraw, continuing as the head of the institution until his death. A man of fine business judgment and honor, he won the confidence and esteem of the community in an unusual degree. In religious affairs Mr. Washburn's connection was with the Methodist Episcopal Church of Stony Point, of which he was long a trustee. Mr. Washburn was united in marriage to Sarah E. Fowler of Haverstraw, a sister of Denton Fowler, Sr., and at his death he left surviving, besides his wife, two sons and two daughters: Mordecai F., Lucien H., Elizabeth and Louise G. The residence and farm on the Stony Point road have been in the family for thirty-five years.

JAMES R. COMESKY, Suffern, proprietor of the Hotel Rockland, was born in Putnam county, N. Y., August 6th, 1864. He attended the public schools and later entered Rockland College and finished his preliminary education in this institution. Mr. Comesky then began the study of law in the office of Hon. Howard G. Fuller and was admitted to the bar in 1894. He practiced his profession for a time in the West, but soon relinquished it to engage in business affairs. He has been a resident of Rockland county since 1876, was Assessor of Orangetown for three years and has been proprietor of the Hotel Rockland at Suffern since 1898. Mr. Comesky is an extensive owner and dealer in real estate; he owns a quantity of valuable lots in Suffern and elsewhere and is an active, wide-awake and pushing business man. He is married and has one child.

HENRY SCHIOENFIELD is a native of New York city. He received a public school education and later graduated from the New York College. When fifteen and one-half years of age he went on the road as a drummer. After four years traveling in the east, he went to Texas. Shortly after his marriage to Miss Bessie Stern of Newburg, N. Y., he located in Jacksonville, Illinois, and started a poultry business, which he built up to be the largest of the kind in this country. He manufactured his own ice and supplied Jacksonville, also, with this commodity. He was Alderman for two terms, and was Mayor of the town from 1892 to 1895.

He was a delegate to the state convention that nominated Governor Yates, who was a neighbor and warm friend of Henry Schoenfield in Jacksonville; in fact, Mr. Schoenfield was mainly instrumental in securing the nomination of the Governor. Henry Schoenfield established the Twentieth Century Broome Co., of which he is manager, in Congers, N. Y., in 1890, and the trade of this company already reaches into Europe, having a New York and London office. Mr. Schoenfield is a member of the Royal Arcanum, etc. His family consists of wife and three children: Beatrice, Milton Harold and Roslyn.

CHARLES SMITH, JR., was born in New York city October 18th, 1859. His father, Chas. Smith, Sr., a native of Germany, came to New York in 1850 and was engaged in the retail meat business there for thirty-two years. In 1882 he moved to Tappan and established his present grocery and meat business. Mr. Smith, Jr., our subject, was educated in the schools of New York city and at the age of 18 years entered his father's business, with whom he remained for fifteen years. He then received an appointment under Herbert O. Thompson in the Public Works Department in New York city, which he filled with credit to himself and satisfaction to the head of the department for seven years. At the expiration of this time he engaged in the horse business, which he still follows. He was married November 12, 1891, to Ernesten Wustrow, daughter of John Wustrow, of New York city. Their family consisted of five children, the eldest of which died at the age of ten weeks, namely: Emma, born July 15, 1893, died Sept. 20, 1893; Elsie, born 1895; Gracie, born 1897; Charles, born 1898; Baby girl born 1901. Mr. Smith is a member of the F. and A. M. of Piermont, Royal Arcanum, Workman and Select Knights of Brooklyn, and he is an energetic and live business man of New York city, who makes his residence in Tappan, where he has one of the many fine residences which this county is noted for.

THE WHITE FAMILY. 1. William White, married in Leyden, Holland, July 1, 1612, by Rev. John Robinson, Anna Fuller, and had resolved; born in Leyden in 1614; set sail for America September 6, 1620, with wife, said to be Susanna. He died in Plymouth March 14, 1621, and his widow, Susanna, married, May 12, 1621, Edward Wins-

low, Jr. Mrs. Winslow died October, 1680. 2. Peregrine White, born in Cape Cod Harbor, November, 1620, was brought up by his mother, Mrs. Winslow, of Green Harbor, Mass.; married, about 1647, Sarah, daughter of William and Elizabeth Bassett (passengers in the *Fortune* Nov. 10, 1621). He settled on an estate given him by his father-in-law, lying between North and South rivers, not far from the ocean. Peregrine White later lived in Marshfield, where he died July 20, 1704. His wife, Sarah, died January 20, 1711. He is said to have had six children. 3. Daniel White, the oldest child of Peregrine, was born in Marshfield in 1649; married, Aug. 19, 1674, Hannah Hunt, of Duxbury. He died May 6, 1724, aged seventy-five. 4. John White, oldest son of Daniel, was born April 26, 1675; married, Feb. 18, 1700, Susanna, daughter of Samuel Sherman (lived at Marshfield or Duxbury). He died Sept. 7, 1753, aged seventy-eight. Susanna died Sept. 22, 1766. 5. John White, Jr., born Aug. 17, 1704; married, Jan. 10, 1724, Joanna Sprague; have not the date of his death or his wife's. 6. Dr. John White, oldest son of John, Jr., was born in 1731; married Polly Wadsworth, said to be a relative of the poet, Henry W. Longfellow. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary army and a resident of Blandford, Mass. He died in 1791. Children, seven: Vasal White, born in 1761; married May Kingsley. 2. John White, served in the Revolutionary army from Massachusetts, and settled in central New York State. 3. Samuel White, settled in Chenango county, N. Y. 4. Ebenezer White, was a Methodist minister in New York. 5. Sally White, married—Lloyd. 6. Mary or Polly White, married—Blair. 8. John White was born Nov. 26, 1794; married to Margaret Tremper, born Sept. 15, 1791. Children of John and Margaret White: Ann White, born Sept. 21, 1812; George White, born Feb. 16, 1814; Tunis DePew White, born June 4, 1816; William Eugene White, born March 21, 1822; John Edward White, born July 9, 1824. William Eugene White, married Margaret Polhemus. Their children are: Elizabeth S., married C. H. Welford; Melissa, dead; and William H. William H. was born in Nyack, married Cornelia D. Fulton in 1878. They are the parents of four children: Edward F., Edith, Margaret M., Florence E. W. H. White is an extensive dealer in coal and lumber, as also was his father.

HILL FAMILY. James Hill, a native of county Antrim, Ireland, came to this country when a boy of twelve years of age. He settled in New York city at what is now the Bronx, married Elizabeth Emery from Westchester county and raised a family of seven children, as follows: Charlotte, married to Stephen Wicks; Sally, married Ephraim Smith; William, married Clarissa Babcock; Emery, married Kate Lawrence; James, married Sarah Lawrence; Catherine, married George Gale; Eleanora, married George Ghee. William Hill, son of James, married Clarissa Babcock and had a family of eight children, as follows: William H., married Sarah Rogers; James M., married Nancy Rayner; Henry C.; Elizabeth, married James Ghee; Thomas, died young; Thomas C., married Margaret A. Ryer; Laura, married William Hutton; Martha, married James Marble. William Hill enlisted in 1854 aboard the U. S. Frigate Congress and went on a voyage to the Mediterranean Sea of three years and seven months. Then he served one year on the U. S. Steamer Stetten, as master-at-arms, at the Charleston blockade. His son, Henry C. Hill, was on the steamer Rhode Island and sailed through the West Indies as assistant engineer. James M., another son of William Hill, served on the steamer with his father at the Charleston blockade, as log keeper. Thomas C., son of William Hill, succeeded his father in the Garnerville Hotel March 25, 1874, upon the death of the latter. William Hill had conducted this hotel for ten years prior to his death, Thomas C. was born January 11, 1853.

BABCOCK FAMILY. Thomas Babcock, a native of Haverstraw, served in the Revolutionary army and is said to have been the soldier who led Mad Anthony Wayne into battle at Stony Point. He was the father of John Babcock, who married Rachel Halstead, daughter of Jacob Halstead of Rocky Forest, N. Y.. They came to West Haverstraw from Rocky Forest (now Newburg) and had a family of seven children, as follows: Betsey, who married James LeRoy; Polly, married John Stout; Hannah, married Isaac Babcock; Charlotte, married Samuel Van Pelt, a ship carpenter of New York; Nancy, married Samuel Wood; Sally, married James Waldron; Clarissa, married William Hill. Job, the only son, married in Haverstraw and raised a large family. Hiram, one of Job's sons, served as Superintendent of the Poor for several terms. John Babcock served in the War of 1812 and was honorably discharged.

THOMAS C. HILL is a native of West Haverstraw, Rockland county, N. Y.; was born January 11, 1853. Received his education in

the public schools of that place and since leaving school has been in the hotel business in West Haverstraw, succeeding his father to the ownership of the Garnerville Hotel. Mr. Hill has been actively interested in local affairs, has served upon town committees, as trustee and collector of schools, on the Executive committee of the Republican Club, District Committee for town of Haverstraw, and was a member of the Finance committee for West Haverstraw district for the dedication of Stony Point State park. Mr. Hill is a whole-souled, wide-awake and popular citizen, with an acquaintance extending from New York to San Francisco.

TRUXTON W. SPRINGSTEEN was born in Rockland county, two miles northeast of his present residence, at Tallmans, May 30, 1855. His education was obtained first in the public schools of the town of Ramapo. When twelve years of age, his parents removed to Brooklyn, N. Y., where he finished his education, attending both public and private schools of that city. After leaving school he was engaged on the construction of the Brooklyn elevated railway, as foreman over a gang of men, with teams, hauling foundation stone, crushed stone and cement. The year following he took a position under the government, having in charge the removal of supplies to and from the Quartermaster's and Medical Departments of the Government buildings in New York. During the year that he occupied this position he superintended the transportation of supplies on board the vessels constituting the fleet of the Greely expedition to the Arctic regions. In 1883 he was united in marriage with Adaline L. DeBaun, daughter of John A. DeBaun, of Tallmans. They have one child, Mabel C. Mr. Springsteen is Collector for the town of Ramapo, which office he has held continuously the past ten years. He is a member of Onward Lodge, I. O. O. F., and Ramapo Lodge, F. and A. M., both Suffern lodges. James "Coby" Springsteen (a soldier in the War of 1812), great grandfather of our subject, settled near Tallmans at a period supposed to be about the latter part of the eighteenth century. His son, William, married Margaret Johnson, daughter of Robert Johnson, of Tallmans. He became prominent in the local politics of Rockland county (or Orange county, as it was then), and it is recorded that he held the office of Poormaster and was also assessor. He was a member of the old school Baptist Church. The children of Wil-

liam and Margaret Springsteen were five in number, viz.: William D., died unmarried; Daniel D.; Sarah Elizabeth, married Wesley Waldron; Robert, married Rachel Brundage, of Tallmans; Elmira, married William Rehling, of Suffern. Daniel D. married Mary Jane Brundage, of Tallmans. He followed his trade of carpenter for a number of years in Rockland county, having in charge the building and rebuilding, among a number of others of the following: The Old School Baptist Church, northeast of Tallmans, in the spring of 1854; the Lutheran Church, southwest of Tallmans, in the spring of 1855; the Methodist Church at Viola, in the summer of 1856; the Brick Church at Hempstead, in the summer of 1857. He has been an inspector for the U. S. Government for the past twenty-three years. The children of Daniel D. and Mary Jane Springsteen were Lewis D., Truxton W. and Lucy M., married C. Fred Gedney, of Brooklyn, N. Y. It may be stated that Thomas Springsteen, a son of James, conducted a machine shop for the manufacture of screws, etc., at Suffern, having as a partner George W. Suffern, and while engaged in this business he invented the machine for the manufacture of the gimlet-pointed screw now in use. It is said he sold his interest in the patent for \$2,000.

J. IRVING TRAPHAGEN was born at Suffern, Rockland county, N. Y., July 6, 1866. His education was obtained in the public schools of that place and New York city. For a time after leaving school he was engaged in the mercantile business in Suffern, and in 1896 he secured an interest in the Tengwald File and Ledger Company of New York. He holds the office of Secretary and General Manager of this concern. He held the office of Postmaster for the Village of Suffern five years under Wanamaker's administration and in April, 1899, was again appointed to that office, which he is now holding. Mr. Traphagen is a Mason, a Mystic Shriner and a Knight Templar, is a successful young business man, popular in his community, and has always conducted the business of the Government to the entire satisfaction of the citizens of Suffern. He has served one term as Supervisor of the town of Ramapo.

GEN. IRA MUNN HEDGES, late President of the National Bank of Haverstraw, Director of the North River and New York Steamboat Company, President of the Crystal Salt Company, President of the Diamond Brick Company, and dealer in lumber and coal at Haverstraw,

was born in what is now the town of Stony Point, at Grassy Point, Rockland county, July 31, 1839, being the son of Phineas and Eliza (Edwards) Hedges. He traces his lineage to William Hedges, the founder of the family in America, who settled in Southampton, L. I., as early as 1647. Two years afterward he and twelve others founded the town of East Hampton, on the east end of the island, and his original lot is now owned by his descendants of the sixth generation. Immediately prior to the Revolution, members of the family moved to Orange county, and a son of one of these, Peter Hedges, married Naomi Terry, whose ancestors were pioneers of Southold, L. I. Their children were named as follows: Phineas, our subject's father; John, who served in the War of 1812, and whose descendants are living in Dutchess county; Elizabeth, wife of Gerritt Smith; Margaret, Mrs. Henry Massey; Elsie, who married Jacob Gedney; Richard, whose children are in Dutchess county; and Henry, who died in Virginia. Phineas, who was born near Newburgh, February 25, 1805, worked in a brickyard in boyhood and later purchased a half-interest in one. In April, 1837, he removed from Newburgh to Grassy Point, where he engaged in the manufacture of brick. In 1842 he purchased from John Thiell a portion of the Cheesecock Patent, and there he spent the remainder of his life. He was an ardent temperance man, a Republican in politics and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Haverstraw. In character he was honorable, in disposition amiable, and in energy tireless. He married Eliza Edwards and they had eight children, namely: Anna M., Susan, Ira M., Melissa J., George B., Aaron P., Charles A. and Emma F. George B., who was an importer of paints, dyes, oils and drugs, in New York city, died about 1887. The only survivors are Aaron P. and Charles A., brick manufacturers at Cornwall, Orange county. After five years of age the subject of this notice lived on a farm and his education was obtained in the common schools and at Haverstraw Mountain Institute under Lewis B. Hardeastle. On concluding his studies he entered a law office under Judge Edward Pye, then County Judge, and was almost ready for admission to the Bar when the outbreak of the war caused a change in his plans. In August, 1861 he enlisted in a company raised by Captain Pye, who later became Colonel of the Ninety-fifth New York Infantry and was killed at Cold Harbor. He became a member of Company F., which joined the regiment in New York city,

and was assigned to the Army of the Potomac. Among the battles in which the regiment participated were those of Gainesville, the second engagement at Bull Run, and South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Wilderness, Spottsylvania, North Ann, Tolopotomy, Bethesda Church, Petersburg, Weldon Railroad, Chapel House and Hatchie's Run. October 1, 1861, Company F was raised at Haverstraw, with Edward Pye Captain, James Crenney, First Lieutenant, and S. G. Mackey, Second Lieutenant, and was mustered into the Ninety-fifth, at New York, October 15. It captured Aqua Creek under McDowell and Wadsworth, and then became a part of the army under General Abner Doubleday, the hero of Fort Sumter. After supporting Banks in Virginia, it was assigned to Pope's army, took part in the retreat to Washington and in the reorganization under MacClellan. After the campaign at Antietam, it took part at Chancellorsville, and on Lee's invasion into Pennsylvania was the advance of the Federal army under General Reynolds. July 1, 1863, it occupied the most advanced position on McPherson Ridge at Gettysburg and was the first regiment under fire in that famous battle. This regiment, in company with the Fourteenth New York and Sixth Wisconsin, captured a whole Mississippi brigade, who had taken Hall's battery. Enlisting as a private, our subject refused the commissions of Lieutenant and Quartermaster, also that of Major of a colored regiment. Later he served as Quartermaster-Sergeant in his own regiment, the ranking officer of the non-commissioned staff. Though much of the time on detail duty, he took part in the principal battles. At the Battle of Antietam he acted as Ordnance Sergeant. While serving as Quartermaster-Sergeant he practically had charge of the detail of that department in the regiment. While in the hospital sick with typhoid fever, he was captured by Gen. Job Stuart near Chambersburg and was paroled. As clerk in the convalescent's ward, he made out the parole papers for the inmates, all of whom were soon afterward exchanged. In 1880 he assisted in the organization of Edward Pye Post, No. 179, of which he was Commander for many years. In 1884 he was elected State Commander of the department, State of New York. In 1888-'89 he was Inspector-General of the United States, under Commander-in-Chief John D. Rea, of Minneapolis, Minn. In all pension legislation and matters pertaining to the welfare of soldiers he took an active part. After the war Mr. Hedges

joined two parties intending to go to Pilot Knob, Mo., to engage in the iron business, but at the entreaty of his mother, he decided to remain in the East. In 1866 he opened the lumber and coal business which he continued up to the time of his death. In 1870 he began to manufacture brick, of which he has turned out as high as sixty million per annum. In 1871, with others, he started a State bank, of which two years later he became President. In 1874 it was made a National bank and he continued as its President. In 1872 he organized the Diamond Brick Company (which for twenty years employed more than six hundred men and transported fifty millions of brick per year), of which company he was President. At the same time he organized the Haverstraw Barge Company. Meantime he organized the Excelsior Brick Company, which is now a large corporation, with a capital of \$100,000, and furnishes employment to about one hundred men. About 1882 Mr. Hedges purchased an old passenger and freight line and organized the North River and New York Steamboat Company, with headquarters at Nyack, though the stock is held mainly in Haverstraw. This line runs from Peekskill to New York and intermediate points. With other parties, in 1881, he secured property on the Erie Railroad in Wyoming county, N. Y., intending to prospect for oil, but finally struck a salt bed. The Crystal Salt Company was organized and he became its Treasurer, the headquarters being at Haverstraw. He was President of the Crystal Salt Company, the works being situated at Salt Vale, near Warsaw, Wyoming county, where they have three separate plants, with a capacity of one thousand barrels daily. In addition he had large real estate interests at Haverstraw. January 4, 1866, Mr. Hedges married Miss Jeanette S., daughter of Levi and Margaret Knapp, of Haverstraw, where she was born September 19, 1843. They have three children living: Margaret, wife of M. F. Washburn; and Irene and Lila, at home. May, Nettie M., Ida P. and George S. are deceased. Mr. Hedges was a Chapter Mason. He traveled considerably and usually spent his winters in Florida. Since 1856 he voted for every Republican Presidential candidate, and he has been a delegate to the majority of the county conventions and attended nearly all the State conventions. Twice he was a candidate for State Treasurer. He was a delegate to the Republican convention at Chicago which nominated General Harrison for the Presidency. In Grand Army matters he was also very active. In 1895 Mr. Hedges was appointed by Governor Morton one of the Commissioners for the

completion of the new Capitol at Albany. He was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1880, and was chairman of the military committee and rearranged the military organization, besides holding other responsible positions. He was a member of the Scenic and Historic Preservation Society, which has for its object the preservation of natural scenery and places of historical importance. He was much interested in the dedication of Stony Point Battlefield as a State park. This chronological list of Gen. Hedges' interests does not include the numberless activities which claimed his attention among his neighbors in his own town or county. Beyond the borders of his county the various interests which sought his consideration expresses his position in the business world. In all the relationships of a busy man's life, those among whom he lived and moved absorbed a large portion of his time and thought. Home affairs, school, village and town, fraternal and church matters appealed to him, and in all their endeavors to promote a healthy growth, and to expand their influence, he gave a cordial support and substantial assistance. In politics, though he labored for the success of his party with unstinted effort, he did not forget the interests of the citizen, and worked zealously for the advancement of the public welfare. Passing his whole business life in the town of his birth, her interests became his interests, her people became his associates, and his whole life was spread before them like an open book whereon they could read his endeavors, his ambitions and his successes. He brought honor to his native town and county and will be remembered as one of her citizens, indigenous to her soil, whose integrity was unimpeachable, whose patriotism was unsullied, and one who unflinchingly performed his duty as he saw it with dignity and the approval of his fellow citizens. In his business relationships Gen. Hedges received the confidence of the commercial community as the result of his fidelity to pure business principles, and all interests over which he wielded control were established and held on solid foundations. Outside of his native county Gen. Hedges had a large and influential acquaintance, extending over a large portion of the country. There were few men of prominence in political or Grand Army circles who were not his personal acquaintances, and many were intimately so. It was the same in the business lines in which he was associated. For some years previous to his death Gen. Hedges seemed to have a lessened vigor. Nevertheless, he pursued the even tenor of his way, yielding only for two or three months, which he spent on the Bermuda Islands, returning with a

renewal of strength for his year's work. The last year had been a peculiarly arduous one. His health failed greatly and again he sought to woo back his lost strength by going to Florida. Towards spring his health continued to fail and he returned home, where he died April 9, 1902, in the 63d year of his age. He is survived by his widow and three daughters.

JAMES P. MCQUAIDE is a well known business man of the city of New York. His grandfather, James G. McQuaide, was born in Scotland, and came to this country in 1809 and settled in Westmoreland Co., Pa. James G. McQuaide, Jr., father of the above, was born January 3, 1819, in Westmoreland Co., Pa., and was one of the most prominent men of the State. He served as a Colonel in the Mexican War in 1845, and later was extensively engaged in the lumber and oil business, being one of the first to discover oil in Pennsylvania. He organized and fitted out the 102d Pennsylvania Regiment and sent it to the front in 1861, was made Collector of the Port of Philadelphia in 1862, was elected Member of Congress in 1872 and at the expiration of the term did not seek re-election, was appointed Master Warden of the Port of Philadelphia from 1874 to 1880. During the last six years of his life he held the office of Chairman of the Republican State Central Committee of Pa. He died Jan. 21, 1881, at the age of 62 years, leaving five children, one daughter and four sons, viz.: F. Quindaro, James P. (our subject), Earl G., Superintendent of Construction for National Conduit and Cable Co., of New York; Walter S., who is a petty officer in the American navy; J. Halsey, electrician of Metropolitan Street Railway Company, of New York. James P. McQuaide was born June 24, 1861, in Indiana county, Pa., and at the age of six months his father removed to Philadelphia, where he attended the High School, then went to Fort Edward College, where he had been only three months when the college was burned. This was in the fall of 1877. He then graduated from Pierce's Business College of Philadelphia. He followed the sea for the following eight months. He was in the railway mail service from 1879 to 1880, then a fee clerk in the Philadelphia customs house, then private secretary to Allen Wood, of Philadelphia, from 1881 to 1887. He then inaugurated the National Conduit and Cable Company in conjunction with Ed. S. Perot and was elected Treasurer of the company, which office he is still holding, and to show the success and energy they

have displayed the business has increased from \$15,000 in 1887 to \$12,000,000 in 1901. Mr. McQuaide was married August 8th, 1879, to Lucia Relf, of Philadelphia, and they have one daughter, who is married to Albert Deersinger, of Nyack. He was again married in 1890 to Sarah Sidebottom, of Philadelphia, and they are the parents of three children: Gabriel, Isabella and James P., Jr. Socially Mr. McQuaide is a member of the New York Yacht Club, New York Club, Pennsylvania Society of New York and the Country Club of Nyack. His summer home, "Larchdell Farm," just under Hook Mountain, is noted for its celebrated Bartlett pears, of which he has about six hundred trees.

JAMES A. DAVIDSON was born at Craigville, Orange county, N. Y., May 10th, 1855. He received his education there and after leaving school clerked for about five years in a store at Ramapo. The succeeding two years he spent in Illinois, and in 1876 went to Sayre, Pa., with the Cayuta Wheel and Foundry Co., as chief clerk, and also acted to a certain extent in the capacity of travelling salesman. Mr. Davidson continued with this company fifteen years, and then accepted a position with G. W. G. Ferris & Co., of Ferris Wheel fame, as inspector of iron and steel. He occupied that position three years, and visited all the larger cities in the country.

In 1898 Mr. Davidson came to Hillburn and took the position of foreman of the foundry department of the Ramapo Iron Works, and now occupies a similar position with the company's branch, the American Brake Shoe and Foundry Co., at Mahwah, N. J. Mr. Davidson is a member of Ramapo Lodge, No. 589, F. and A. M., and while residing at Sayre he served two terms on the Board of Education. In 1881 he was united in marriage with Leora Bensley, of Nicholas, N. Y. They have eight children: Margaret D., Grace, Mildred, Harold, Cora, James, Leora and Maxwell. Mr. Davidson is a highly respected citizen of Suffern. His position as foreman over a large number of men is oftentimes a trying one and at all times an exacting one, requiring judgment, force of character and executive ability of a high order, and the popularity in which he is held by the men under his control bears testimony to his entire fitness for the responsible position he holds.

VAN WYCK ROSSITER was born in Brooklyn May 12th, 1871, where he attended the Brooklyn Collegiate and Polytechnic Institute

from which he was graduated in 1888, when he commenced his business career with H. A. Rogers, of New York city, with which firm he remained five years. He then organized the company of Rossiter, McGovern & Company, manufacturers of electric machinery, in 1893, which company was incorporated in 1898, and Mr. Rossiter was elected the first president. Mr. Rossiter was married in 1895 to Miss Mabel Fuller, daughter of the late Lewis Cass Fuller, of Troy, N. Y. Their family consists of four children, two boys and two girls, viz.: Richmond, Ruth, VanWyck, Jr., and Margaret. Socially Mr. Rossiter is a member of the Riding and Driving Club of Brooklyn, N. Y., the Crescent Athletic Club, of Brooklyn, and the Country Club, of Upper Nyack, the last of which he is Treasurer.

BENAIAH Y. FROST was born at Birmingham, Conn., September 12th, 1848, and is a son of Floyd T. Frost, who moved to this county about 1849 and settled near Piermont. He was one of the first of the Erie Railroad conductors on a train running from Suffern to Piermont. He died in 1862. His family consisted of two sons, viz.: Floyd T. Frost, Jr., who is now in the Government employ at Washington, D. C. and Benaiah Y., our subject. Mr. Frost attended Crawford's School at Piermont-on-the-hill. At the age of seventeen years he entered the office of Henry Fitch & Co., Wall street, where the foundation of his business career was laid. February 1st, 1873, he took the position of cashier for E. P. Scott & Co., and in 1875 this firm was succeeded by W. S. Gurnee, Jr., & Co., bankers and brokers, of which Mr. Frost is one of the members. He was married April 30, 1870, to Margaret Louisa Blanch, daughter of Joseph Blanch, of Orangeburg, and their family consisted of five children, of whom three are living, viz.: Leroy, who is the junior member of the firm of W. S. Gurnee, Jr., & Co., and also a member of the N. Y. Stock Exchange; Fred J. and Blanche. Mr. Frost is a director in a number of incorporated companies, viz.: Shelby Iron Co., of Anniston, Ala.; the Last Dollar G. W. Mining Co., of Colorado; the Chrysolite Silver Mining Co., of Colorado, and was until recently a director of the Tennessee Coal and Iron Co. Socially he is a member of the Nyack Country Club, the Tappan Zee Yacht Club and the Sons of the Revolution, also a member of the Nyack Reformed Church. His great-grandfather, Samuel Delavan, who was a captain in the Continental

Army, had the honor of escorting Washington and Clinton into New York city on evacuation day.

GUS. A. RICHMAN is a German by birth. He has resided in this country for the past fifteen years, and has during this period been engaged in the tin manufacturing business in New York city. In November, 1901, he secured an interest in the Twentieth Century Broom Company, at Congers, N. Y., and was the manager of the manufacturing and shipping department of this prosperous concern. His wife was Miss Hattie Block, of New York city, and his family consists of two children: Stanley M., born March 10, 1898, and M. Nathaniel, born March 4, 1900. In June, 1902, Mr. Richman sold his interest in the Twentieth Century Broom Company and engaged in the cutlery business in New York city, and is doing a prosperous business there. His New York office is 34 Howard street.

AUGUST BASSE is a German by birth. He was educated in that country and served in the lancers, Thirteenth Regiment, as an officer for four years. He came to New York city in 1885 and established himself in business and remained there for six years. In 1891 he secured his present hotel location at Rockland Lake. Here Mr. Basse enjoys the friendship and patronage of many of New York's leading capitalists and business men, who find it very pleasant and restful to run away from the city and enjoy the hospitality of Mein Host Basse and the invigorating air and mountain scenery of this favorite spot. This is the favorite outing place for the members of the New York Fresh Air Club, composed of Wall street men, who are continually to be found here. Besides the other attractions of this well known hostelry, there is a beautiful roof garden, from which one obtains a grand view of the river, lake and mountain scenery. Mr. Basse's family consists of wife, formerly Margaret Eekeberg, and two children, Alfred and William. Mr. Basse is a member of the Kakiat Tribe of Red Men, No. 267, of the National Benevolent Association, and he has served as deputy sheriff for eight years, and also as a notary public.

WILLIAM S. BURR, of Blauvelt, N. Y., comes from what is called the Fairfield branch of the Burr family. Jehue Burre came from England about the year 1600 and settled in Fairfield, Conn., where he

acquired considerable landed property and died about the year 1670. Of his four sons Nathaniel (2) was born about 1640, married first Sarah Ward, issue, two children; married second Ann ———, issue, six children. Colonel John (3), the eldest from second wife, was born May 1673, married first Deborah ———, issue, five children; married second, widow Elizabeth Wakeman, no issue. John (4), eldest son of Col. John, married Catherine Wakeman, October 18, 1722; twelve children. Ozias (5), of Bridgeport, Conn., son of John, born May 1, 1739, married Sarah Nichols, January 8, 1764; ten children; Ozias (5) died September 7, 1836; Sarah, his wife, died September 2, 1820, aged eighty-one years. Amos (6), of Bridgeport, son of Ozias, born December 26, 1768, married Abigail E. Shelton, of Huntington, April 18, 1796; eight children. Amos (6) died November, 1856. Frederick (7), of Bridgeport, Conn., son of Amos, born July, 1807; married Mary Burke, April, 1847. They had five children: Amos S., William, Henry A., John E. and Caroline. Frederick, the father, died in December, 1876. His wife died in 1898. William S. Burr, our subject, was born at Bridgeport, Conn., January 20, 1850. Until fourteen years of age he lived with his parents at Bridgeport, where he received a liberal education, and then went to Somerville, N. J., where he remained twelve years, coming to Blauvelt in 1876. Mr. Burr is unmarried and resides with his brother, Henry, who married Mrs. John M. Blauvelt.

EZEKIEL O. ROSE, Stony Point, was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., February 10, 1846. Immediately after leaving school he secured a position in the general store of Sheriff Penny, at Stony Point. He has transacted business as assistant and since 1871 as sole proprietor in these premises for forty years. Mr. Rose has, however, not confined his business transactions to conducting a general store, but has branched out into coal and lumber and into the manufacture of brick, being part owner of the Heitlinger & Rose yard, at Stony Point, and also that of A. Rose & Co., at Rondout, N. Y. He also for several years conducted a general store at Tomkins Cove, the firm being E. O. & A. E. Rose. Mr. Rose is a registered pharmacist and conducts a drug store in connection with his general store at Stony Point. He has been a Director in the People's Bank at Haverstraw, N. Y., since its organization, and a member of the Stony Point High School Board since the erection of the new school building. He has also been a member of the Board of Fire Commis-

sioners since the Fire Department was organized, and for the past twenty-five years a trustee in the Presbyterian Church at Stony Point.

CHARLES T. WADSWORTH is a native of Ontario county, N. Y., where he received his education, together with a course in the Scranton schools. At eighteen years of age he came to Nyack and during the seven years following held a position with Charles McElroy, where he learned all the branches of the carpenters and builder's trade and perfected himself in the general conduct of such an establishment. In 1889 he leased quarters on High avenue and opened a builder's and contractor's establishment, which he conducted at that location one year, when he removed to his present quarters 37½ Cedar Hill avenue, and took in as a partner James H. Kittle, the firm name being Wadsworth & Kittle. On August 6, 1902, the firm was dissolved, Mr. Kittle retiring, and the business is now owned and conducted by Mr. Wadsworth individually. He has also established a branch office at Oakland Beach, Rye, N. Y. In 1891 he married Miss Grace Burdick, of Nyack, and their family consists of LeRoy Douglas, born October 29, 1893; William Edgar, born December 12, 1895. One child, Helen Francis, died July 26, 1899, aged eleven months. Mr. Wadsworth is one of the progressive young business men of Rockland county. His honesty and integrity are unquestioned. His business methods are such as to ensure success in any undertaking, and possessing as he does architectural skill and a practical knowledge of the requirements of his profession, he is peculiarly fitted for the business in which he is engaged.

CHARLES A. CHAPMAN, President of the Nyack National Bank, is a native of Westfield, Mass. Early in life he engaged with a banking institution as clerk and in time had filled all the principal positions connected with fiduciary business, such as clerk, bookkeeper, teller, cashier, and finally president. The Nyack National Bank, of which Mr. Chapman has been president for the past fifteen years, was organized in 1878, and is the leading banking institution in Rockland county. In 1889 Mr. Chapman was elected Treasurer of South Nyack. His judgment as a financier is keen and accurate, and to his careful attention is mainly due the prosperity of the Nyack National Bank. Mr. Chapman is also identified with the social and business interests of the village. He has been president of the N. R. A., Rockland Lodge, F. and A. M., and

is identified with many corporations of both public and private nature. He is a valued member of the Republican party councils, and enjoys the fullest confidence and respect of the general public.

CAPTAIN JOEL WILSON, U. S. V., A. M., superintendent and proprietor of the Hudson River Military Academy, on the Hudson, at Nyack, was born at Gorham, Cumberland county, Maine. His parents Hibbard and Elizabeth Allen Wilson, were natives and lifelong residents of that State. They were married in 1836 and removed from Falmouth to Gorham, where they reared a family of ten children. Capt. Wilson was the second child and oldest son of this family, seven of whom are now living, and all were a few years ago engaged in teaching, located all the way from Maine to Japan. Captain Wilson taught the district school and with the money earned had attended the High School at irregular intervals. Hardly had the preparation for college begun at the academy ere he was sought as an instructor in various classes, thus making a slender purse the longer go. At the breaking out of the War of the Rebellion he had just been elected Principal of a New England Academy, near Portland, Maine. He hoped the war might pass by, that duty would not call him, for that would mean disaster to all his youthful plans. But Bull Run came and went and with it the call for men. He hesitated not, and with one year's leave of absence, bade good-bye to tearful pupils and the next day was in a soldiers' camp. With thousands of other youths, not less patriotic than himself, the young soldier is soon lost in the vast aggregation, representing the flower and strength of the nation, the "Army of the Potomac." A year passed by and leave of absence is extended, and then another, until four years of army life had changed the youth in his teens to a sunburnt, war-worn young cavalry officer. To narrate the army record of Capt. Joel Wilson, of the First Maine Cavalry Volunteers, would be to record almost the entire history of that grandest of cavalry regiments. Capt. Wilson was mustered in at the first organization, and was mustered out with the very last at the final disband of the regiment. He began at Cedar Mountain. He ended at Appomattox. Of best New England stock, of upright habits, correct morals, he became innured to hardships almost Herculean, and for four years, at every call of duty, he always answered "here." Returning from Sheridan's Trevillian Raid, which closed fifty days and nights of almost constant riding, he was obliged to seek the field hospital, hoping thus to rally from

the strain of the long and terrible cavalry work. He had never had a furlough; he had never asked for one; he never meant to go home till his fighting work was done. For several weeks he lay in hospital at City Point, where every waking hour, both night and day, was solaced by the bursting shell or whiz of picket shot, or roar of army volley, heeding little, caring less, till the hospital train bore him north among New England mountains. Soon we find him again at the front, a year hence to return with a victorious regiment, bearing on its tattered battleflag more emblems of heroic prowess than are recorded of any other cavalry regiment in the army. Hardly had the soldier become the citizen ere the work of education was resumed, and after all these years we find him still in the harness, battling for the right and fitting young men for lives of usefulness. As Principal of the Hudson River Military Academy, a preparatory school for boys, located at Nyack-on-the-Hudson, he lives in the enjoyment of honors earned, and the pleasures that come from seeing boys and young men develop into manly worth. Capt. Wilson retains his interest in the old comrades, and where they are he is in the midst, and calls upon him by them are never unheeded. Capt. Wilson is a church communicant, a Mason, Knight Templar, Mystic Shriner, Grand Army Comrade, Member of the Loyal Legion of New York, and Society of the Army of the Potomac, also of the Young Men's Christian Association.

COLONEL ALFRED J. CASSE was born in 1843 at Evans Mills, N. Y. His father, William Casse, came to this country from France about 1835, and settled at Evans Mills. In 1839 he married Marguerite, daughter of Augustus Grappotte, who was a man of much culture, having had a liberal education before coming to this country. Here he taught privately painting, drawing and languages, and for some time was a teacher at Proctor's Academy at Evans Mills. He died in 1887. Their family consisted of five children, viz.: William P., died in 1900; Alfred J., Augustus, Clara and John B. William P. enlisted in C Company, Tenth New York Heavy Artillery, and served with his regiment until the close of the war and was then mustered out with the regiment, receiving an honorable discharge. He died in 1900. Augustus, when only eighteen years old, enlisted in Company G. Twentieth New York Cavalry. He served faithfully until the muster-out of the regiment, but he contracted disease while in the service and died in

1869. Clara married Alfred Hemstreet, of Michigan, and died in 1885. John B. resided at home until his death, which occurred in 1885. Col. Alfred J., our subject, has fully sustained the family's good name. He enlisted in C Battery, 1st Light Artillery, in the summer of 1861, where he served as a private until honorably discharged for disability. He was at the second Bull Run, Antietam and Fredericksburg engagements. He returned to his home in February, 1863. Having regained his health, he entered the active work of recruiting for the 20th N. Y. Cavalry, raising part of a company, and was mustered in as a Second Lieutenant of Co. G. In July he was promoted to First Lieutenant, and in the winter to captain of L Company and assigned to duty as aide-de-camp under Gen. R. S. MacKenzie, where he continued till August, 1865, when he was mustered out of the service with an honorable record. After about one year Captain Casse engaged with J. C. Wemple & Co., with whom he remained till 1880. He then established the firm of Casse, Lackey & Co., manufacturers and importers of window shade material. Later he formed a joint stock company known as the Pinney, Casse & Lackey Co., and was elected vice president, which office he held until 1902. Col. Casse's business career has been a successful one, due in a large degree to his energy and ability. In 1866 he was appointed commissary on the brigade staff of Gen. Bradley Winslow, with the rank of Major in the National Guard. A year later he was appointed to the command of the 35th Regiment, National Guard. During the time the Colonel was in command of the 35th Battalion he took an active interest in securing a grant from the Legislature for building the present armory in the city of Watertown, N. Y., which is an ornament to the city, and Col. Casse is entitled to great credit for his zeal in the matter. In 1882 the demands of his business were such that he felt it necessary to resign from the National Guard, and he left the service with the record of being an able and brilliant officer. The Colonel bears his years lightly and is at the present time active and energetic. His career is one that reflects great credit upon himself, his family and his country. Socially Col. Casse is the fifth charter member of Lafayette Post, No. 140, G. A. R., of New York city, a post that numbers among its members some of the most distinguished soldiers of the country. He was married in 1885 and has one son sixteen years old, who is a chip of the old block. He severed his connection with the New York business in the spring of 1902 and purchased a home at West Nyack consisting of eighty-eight acres. His

second wife, whom he married in August, 1897, was Miss E. Virginia Horgan, daughter of the late Timothy Horgan, a well known grocer of Nyack during the last fifteen years of his life. She has one brother, who is assistant editor of the N. Y. Tribune, and another the manager of the art department of the N. Y. World. Another brother is a contractor and builder.

RUDOLPH LEXOW was born in Denmark January 10, 1822. His preliminary education was obtained in the schools, both public and private, of his native country, after completing which he entered the Kiel University, taking up the study of law. He subsequently took up the study of medicine in the Rostock University. Born of wealthy parents, Mr. Lexow enjoyed the advantages of a complete and thorough education, and had he so elected, with his excellent legal training, and a natural inclination toward the practice of law, he might have become a power in the legal profession. Following his course in the Rostock University, he became Vice Consul to his father, who was then Consul General. He held the office about six years, until 1849, when he came to America. Soon after his arrival in New York he engaged in newspaper work and in the course of a few years purchased the *Bellatristisches*, an influential weekly newspaper devoted to literature, art and science, at that time one of the leading newspapers of the country. Mr. Lexow's ownership of this paper extended over a period of thirty years, until 1882, when he disposed of the property, and has not since been engaged in active business. For a number of years past Mr. Lexow has resided in Nyack. Previous to that time, for some twenty-eight or thirty years, his home was near Nanuet. Mr. Lexow has four children: Charles, a lawyer in New York; Hon. Clarence Lexow, of Nyack, ex-State Senator and practicing attorney, with offices in New York; Allen, who is a stockholder in the New York Cab Co., and Rudolph, Jr., an extensive gold mine owner of Honduras.

HARRY M. GURNEE was born at Stony Point, N. Y., July 11, 1885. While an infant his parents removed to Bloomingdale, N. J., where he received his education. He also attended a private school in Monsey, N. Y. After leaving school he went to Newark and began learning the carpenter's trade, which he followed for two years. He then came to Mount Ivy and assisted his father in the care of the farm.

Mr. Gurnee has served several terms as highway commissioner, has been deputy sheriff and a member of the board of education of Rockland county, and has for years been actively identified with the Rockland County Agricultural Society, having held the office of Vice President of that society. In 1896 he embarked in the stone crushing business on his farm at Mount Ivy. This business has since increased to the extent that he now employs forty hands constantly. The product is shipped by rail to various points in the eastern and southern part of the State and enters into the construction of the highest quality of drives and roadways. His family consists of wife and four children: Anna, Harriette, Jennie and Harry.

JAMES KILBY was born at Battle Creek, Mich., Oct. 12th, 1858. In 1876 he came to Nyack as superintendent of a shoe factory. He occupied that position until Hon. A. S. Tompkins' election as County Judge, when he was appointed Clerk in the Surrogate's Court, which office he filled during the full term of six years. He then purchased the insurance business of R. H. M. Dickinson and is conducting the same to-day, with commodious offices at No. 3 South Broadway, Nyack, N. Y. Mr. Kilby is a member of Rockland Lodge, No. 723, and Rockland Chapter, F. and A. M. He is also a member of the Nyack Tribe of Red Men and Court Tappan Zee, Foresters of America, and belongs to the Y. M. C. A. of Nyack. His family consists of wife, formerly Miss Edith M. Van Etten, of Newark, N. Y., daughter of Henry VanEtten, a prominent peppermint oil distiller of that place, and four children: Ethel J., John VanEtten, Henry P. and J. Douglas. Mr. Kilby is a Republican and a member of the Republican County committee. He has served as volunteer fireman of Nyack.

WILLIAM ALEXANDER SMITH was born in Pottstown, Pa., September 9th, 1820. He received his education in the academies of Princeton and Philadelphia and when thirteen years of age entered a counting house as clerk, where he remained five years. He then engaged with a banking house in Philadelphia, and afterward went to New York and engaged as clerk with a banking and brokerage firm, with whom he was taken as junior partner in 1844. In 1844 Mr. Smith was elected to the New York Stock Exchange, with which he has been ever since actively identified. He was Treasurer of the Exchange from 1864 to

1866, and President from 1866 to 1867; in fact, he is now its oldest living active member. There are no members living but himself who joined in 1844. Mr. Smith has been twice married. His first wife was a daughter of Rev. Dr. Bull, of Chester county, Pa., by whom he had four children. Only two are now living, viz.: Robert Hobert, born in 1848, a retired New York banker, and Clara Hunter, born in 1852, wife of Rev. L. C. Stewardson, of Lehigh University. Mr. Smith's second wife is a daughter of George Jones, of New York. They have one son, William Alexander Smith, Jr., born in 1873. He is a member of the New York Stock Exchange. Mr. Smith has found time to devote some of his attention from a very active career upon the Stock Exchange to laudable enterprises and the encouragement of benevolent institutions; he is at present Vice President of St. Luke's Hospital, New York, was Vice President of the Continental Trust Company, President Sheltering Arms, Chairman of the Gratuity Fund of the Stock Exchange, Treasurer of the Parochial Fund, New York, Treasurer of the Clergy Relief Fund of the General Convention, Vice President City Mission Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church, Chairman of the Executive Committee and Trustee of Trinity School of New York, and various other bodies.

THE HARING FAMILY. In 1624 John DeVries, a native of Hoorn, in the north of Holland, proposed to visit New Netherland, but abandoned the enterprise. In 1630 DeVries formed a partnership and sixteen families emigrated to New Netherland. DeVries, with the sixteen families, arrived at Tappan and purchased from the Indians a strip of land about eight miles long and two to five in width, bounded on the north by the Greenbush swamp, east by the Nyack mountains, south by the Dueskill, near Randall (or Harrington), west by Hackensack creek. Thomas Dongan, Captain-General and Governor of New York and Territory, etc., granted a patent to sixteen families of the above tract, which DeVries named Vriesendale (Tappan patent or Orange-town). The yearly consideration to the Governor for the patent was sixteen bushels of good, merchantable winter wheat. The tract of land was called Navoasunk lands up to 1769. The purchase and grant was made in the time and reign of James II. Among the sixteen families a census shows the names to appear of John DeVries, Peter Harni, M. Cattes Harni, etc. The tract of land was abandoned and again in 1686 was re-occupied. The census shows twenty families occupying said Vriesland

(or dale) patent. Among them are the names of Cornelius Haringh, Cattie, his wife, one boy and four girls. Peter Haringh and Gretie, his wife, one boy and five girls: Cosyn Haringh, Mary, his wife, two boys and two girls. Orange county (then Rockland and Orange combined) for the first twenty-five years, from 1701 to 1726, sent but one representative to the Continental General Assembly. Of that time, with the exception of seven years, said representative was from the Haring family, viz.: Peter Haring, 1701 to 1708-1711; Cornelius Haring, 1713-1725; Peter Haring, 1726. From 1726 to the dissolution of the Provincial Assembly in 1875, Orange county sent two members, of whom Cornelius Haring, 1727 to 1737; Abram Haring, 1745 to 1747, were representatives. On July 4, 1774, at a meeting of free-holders in Orangetown held at Yost Mabe's ('76 House) "The Orangetown Resolution," consisting of seven articles, were drawn up and adopted, which contained the germ of the great principles embodied in the Declaration of Independence. John Haring and Peter Haring, with three others, were appointed a committee for the town to correspond with the city of New York to conclude and agree upon such measures as should be found expedient to obtain redress and conditions sought. The five articles of the resolutions of this meeting formed a part of what was known as the "Non-Importation Agreement," which was adopted by the Continental Congress at Philadelphia October 20, 1774. The Non-Importation articles were subsequently certified to by several other colonies and was one of the overt acts that precipitated the Revolution. April, 1775, John Haring, Esq., was chosen delegate from Orange county "south of the mountains" to the Provincial Congress and elected President of the same. In 1783 John Haring was chosen delegate from "south of the mountains" to the Constitutional Convention at Poughkeepsie. 1785-1787 John Haring was again chosen to Congress. First County Judge, Peter Haring, 1717 to 1727; Cornelius Haring, 1729 to 1733; Abram B. Haring, Jr., 1739 to 1749; Abram Haring, Jr., 1749 to 1769; John Haring, 1774. John Haring was the first Judge after the colony was organized into a State 1778 to 1788. Peterus Harni, of Harni, North Holland, came to America in 1630-40. His son, Peter, married Cattys Boogaert (first generation born in this county). In 1633 Jan Peterse (2d gen.) was born. He married Margretie Cosyuse in 1660. Cosyn Haringh (3d gen.) was born in 1669 and married Martige Blauvelt in

1680. Jan Peterse Haringh (4th gen.) married in 1700 Alice Van Dolssen. Johannes Haringh (5th gen.) married Grietje Blauvelt in 1720. Isaac Haringh (6th gen.) married Maria Conklin in 1752. Cornelius Haring (7th gen.) married Safeye Demarest in 1790. He died in 1831. Isaac C. Haring, M. D., (8th gen.) was born in 1828; married Sarah Tallman in 1850 and died in 1900. He left five children of the 9th generation, viz.: Cantine Hasbrouck, Treasurer of a large wool scouring and commission business at Aurora, Ill.; Ellen Sophia, Cornelius L., a practicing lawyer of Milwaukee, Wis., and has been Secretary of the State Bar Association for a number of years; Bertha S. and John C.; Cantine Hasbrouck married Marion Brady. Ellen Sophia married Dr. F. S. Schenk, a professor of Pastoral Theology at the Theological seminary at New Brunswick, N. J.; John C., born in 1857, married Alice Sickels in 1879 and has the following children (10th gen.): James Demarest, broker and member of the Consolidated Exchange, born in 1881; Elsie S., born in 1882, married Alex. Taylor and has one child, Alice S. (11th gen.), born 1901; Sarah E., born 1884; and Margaret T., born in 1891.

JOHN C. HARING, our subject, was born at New City, N. Y., October 19, 1857. He received his education in the public schools and at Rutgers College High School. He then entered business in New York city, but was forced to retire, owing to ill health. He purchased a farm in Clarkstown and followed farming for a number of years. He then took up carpentry and building. Mr. Haring has always been a staunch Republican and was the first of the family to secede from the Democratic party. He has been urged to accept various nominations, but always declined, preferring to work for the success of other candidates. He has been closely connected with educational matters. He has been a member of the Board of Education of Union Free School No. 7 for several years and has always been connected with the Reformed Dutch Church of Clarkstown. Mr. Haring has earnestly furthered and supported every good movement in the community and is a worthy representation of one of Rockland county's oldest and most prominent families.

WILLIAM H. HUNT was born in Tarrytown, N. Y., February 17, 1876. He received his education in the public schools of that city and Eastman's Business College, of Poughkeepsie, from which he graduated in 1899. The year previous to his course at Eastman's College he was employed as bookkeeper for the Weston Electric Company of New York, and immediately upon finishing his education he resumed his old position with the Weston Company and remained there one year. In November, 1900, he came to Nyack and purchased the grocery business of W. E. Bartow, at West Nyack, which he is still conducting. October, 1901, he married Eva Meyers, of Bethel, Conn. John P. Hunt, the grandfather of our subject, was a native of Sing Sing, at which place his father owned a large amount of property. When a young man he learned the carpenter's and builder's trade and for many years was one of the foremost builders in New York city, and at the time of his death was reputed to be worth a quarter of a million, all of which he made himself starting in life with a cash capital of six hundred dollars. His son, John P. Hunt, Jr., the father of our subject, was born in New York and spent his life there. He was occupied mainly in the care and management of his father's large property interests in that city. He died in 1879.

STEPHEN MERRITT was born in New York city March 6, 1833, where he attended the public school, and later graduated from the Arminia Seminary. His father, Stephen Merritt, Sr., was born at Marlborough-on-the-Hudson in 1803 and he was married in 1822 to Phebe Ann Porter, of Paterson, N. J. Their family consisted of eight children, of whom Stephen alone survives. He started in the undertaking business in New York city in 1848 and conducted the same until his death, which took place in 1877. Stephen Merritt, our subject, at the age of nineteen years, entered the employ of his father in the undertaking establishment and continued with him until his death (1877), when he succeeded to the business, which under his able management has grown to be the largest of the kind in the world. In 1899 it was incorporated as the Stephen Merritt Burial and Cremating Company, located at Nineteenth street and Eighth avenue, New York city, with a capital of \$2,500,000. Mr. Merritt was elected President of the company, which office he still holds. He has also been clergyman of the M. E. Church

for the last forty years. In that time he has had charge of fifteen churches, among which were Piermont, Tappan, Rockland and others. He now has charge of the M. E. Church on Nineteenth street and Eighth avenue. In 1854 he was married to Miss Mary E. Shurragar, of New York city. Their family consisted of three children, viz.: Sarah Eliza (now Mrs. Gilbert H. Crawford, of Nyack), Stephen W., who died in 1891 at the age of thirty-three, and Mary E., married to L. Klopsch, editor of the Christian Herald, 100 East Seventeenth street, New York. Mr. and Mrs. Merritt have lived in Nyack for the past thirty years and are very highly esteemed.

FREDERICK E. PITKIN was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., where he received his education in the public schools. His father, John R. Pitkin, was born in Hartford county, Conn., and in his earlier days was identified with the dry goods business in New York city and Georgia, but finally settled in the real estate business in East New York, better known now as the 26th Ward, Brooklyn. He was married to Miss Sophia M. Thrall, of Litchfield county, Conn. Their family consisted of six children, viz.: George D., who died in 1890; Francis A., died 1897; Georgiana L., died 1899; Frederick E., Wolcott H., of Albany, and John W., of Englewood. His wife died in 1849. He then married Miss Mary W. Allen and they had three children, one of whom only survives, Emma V., of Long Island. He died in 1886, respected by all who knew him. Frederick E. Pitkin commenced his business career in the boot and shoe trade and was one of the originators of the "East New York Boot and Shoe Mfg. Co.," incorporated in 1858, and was elected Secretary-Treasurer, which office he held for about thirty years, when he severed his connection and became interested in the Pitkin Holdsworth Worsteds Co., Incorporated, having two mills, one at Passaic, N. J., and the other in 130th street, New York city. Was elected President, which office he still holds. He is also President of a sanitarium near Flushing, L. I., and a director in the North River Steamboat Co. Mr. Pitkin was married in 1868 to Miss Jane Augusta Hall, daughter of William Hall, of Saratoga county. They have a family of three children, viz.: Bertha Louisa, who is married to Dr. John O. Pollock; Jane Hall and Lillian A. Mr. Pitkin is a member of the Montauk Club, of Brooklyn, and the

Country Club, of Nyack. He has one of the many beautiful homes on the banks of the Hudson, which Upper Nyack is noted for.

DAVID H. MC CONNELL was born in Oswego, N. Y., July 18th, 1858. He acquired an education in the public schools of that place, afterward taking a course in the Oswego Normal School. At the age of seventeen he began canvassing for the sale of books for a New York concern. In this work he was successful from the start and after a few months' service was made general manager, which position he occupied the three years following. He then resigned and accepted a position with the Union Publishing Company, with headquarters at Chicago, and three years later the company placed him in charge of the entire southern territory, with headquarters at Atlanta, Ga. Two years thereafter he purchased the business of his employers and conducted it with success until 1892, when, his other business interests demanding an ever increasing share of his attention, he was compelled to dispose of the book business. About 1882 Mr. McConnell started in a small way the manufacture of perfumes and put his product out under the name of the California Perfume Company. From the start this enterprise was successful and before very long found that his headquarters in New York were inadequate for his growing business. He then erected his present laboratory, which is located at Suffern, N. Y., at which place he manufactures his entire line of perfumes, toilet requisites and flavoring extracts. This business has grown so extensively that there is hardly a city, town or hamlet in the United States where his goods cannot be bought. He employs at his laboratory on an average of eighteen hands and has equipped his plant with the finest and best machinery. Since the plant was erected in Suffern two additions have been made, so that its present capacity is about double what it was when first built. In addition to manufacturing the goods for the California Perfume Co., Mr. McConnell is also the proprietor of the perfume firm of Goetting & Co. These goods are also made at the Suffern laboratory. The executive office and sales-room are at 126 Chambers street, New York city. Branch offices have been established in Luzerne, Pa.; Davenport, Iowa; Dallas, Tex., and San Francisco, Cal. Besides Mr. McConnell's perfume interests, he carries on a wholesale trade as jobber in tableware. Since becoming a resident of Rockland county Mr. McConnell has always taken a deep

interest in its welfare. For three years he served on the Board of Education of Suffern and was President of the Board when the question of a new school building came up and it was decided to erect the present structure. Mr. McConnell was instrumental in starting the Suffern National Bank, of which he is the largest individual stock-holder, and holds the office of Vice President. In 1885 he was united in marriage with Lue E., daughter of William Ward Hayes, of Chicago, Ill. Mr. McConnell resides in Suffern, N. Y., and has just completed the erection of a handsome residence on a piece of property known as the "Ridge," which he purchased a few years ago. Its location is considered one of the finest in Suffern, on account of the extensive view and at the same time is in close proximity to the village.

JOHN W. FURMAN. The ancestors of the Furman family were three brothers who came to this country in Colonial times from the border-land between France and Germany. One settled on Long Island and many of his descendants are still there; some, however, went to Maine, and still others to South Carolina, where Furman University is a monument to the family name. The second brother settled in Genesee county, N. Y., and the third in Essex county, N. J. Gilbert Furman, father of John W., was a member of the branch that settled on Long Island. The old Furman homestead was situated near the present City Hall in Brooklyn, and the family burying-ground was between Bushwick avenue and Broadway. Gilbert Furman was born in Rockland county, N. Y., November 28, 1807, and was the son of William, who was born February 21, 1771, in the town of Ramapo. William Furman married a daughter of the Cooper family, prominent in the early history of the county. Gilbert Furman married Sarah VanWart, of New Jersey. He followed agricultural and lumbering pursuits, and, dying in May, 1889, left a widow, two daughters and seven sons. He was a man of high character, noted for his honesty and industry. He was a member of the Methodist denomination, in which he held various official positions. He was buried from the Mechanicsville M. E. Church, the Rev. Dr. Freeman and the Rev. Mr. Hurd officiating in the service, and was borne to his last resting place by six of his sons: Henry, George, John, Monroe, Benjamin and Harmon, his oldest son, William, escorting his (widow)

mother. John W. Furman was born in the town of Haverstraw March 9, 1847. His mother was a descendant of the VanWart and Dye families, of New Jersey. She was a woman of a lovable disposition and possessed many Christian qualities. She was always ready to do a kind act and to relieve the suffering. A true mother and greatly beloved by her family and many friends. She died in September, 1893, and was borne by her six sons, William, Henry, George, Monroe, Benjamin and Harmon, and buried beside her husband. Mr. Furman's youth was spent working on the farm and attending the district school at Camp Hill, until he was eighteen years of age, when he entered the Canandaigua Academy and later the Oswego Normal School, being graduated from the Normal School in 1871. He entered Cornell University in 1873, and in 1879 was enrolled at the Law School of the New York University, from which institution he was graduated in 1881, with a degree of L. L. B. For several years following Mr. Furman was engaged in teaching, first in Westchester county and for a time in the city schools of Binghamton. He began the practice of law with the Hon. George W. Weiant, of Haverstraw, County Judge and Surrogate of Rockland county, and after remaining in this connection several years opened an office in Main street, where he has since practiced his profession. Apart from his profession, Mr. Furman has taken an active interest in the educational affairs of the village of Haverstraw. For many years he has been Clerk of the Board of Education, and in the successive steps which led to the re-organizing of the public school system and the erecting of the present large Academy, he bore an important part. Mr. Furman has also served several terms as Village Clerk. His religious connection is with the Methodist Episcopal Church of Haverstraw, in which he is a steward and the teacher of the Bible class. In social affairs Mr. Furman is a Free Mason, a Knight of Pythias and an Odd Fellow. He has filled successively every chair in Iona Lodge, K. of P., and has also been the District Grand Deputy; in Sequel Lodge, I. O. O. F., he is a Past Noble Grand. Mr. Furman married Miss Ida M. Holmes, of Haverstraw, a very estimable lady, a member of one of the oldest families of the county.

PROF. LUTHER O. MARKHAM. There is no profession that brings with it greater responsibilities or requires larger talents than that

of the teacher—he who molds the youthful mind and prepares it for the world of activity. To say, therefore, that a man fills this responsible position satisfactorily and efficiently is to bestow upon him the highest praise. With truth this statement can be made of Prof. Markham, Superintendent of the public school of Haverstraw, and a man well and widely known as a successful educator. Through his grandfather, Alden Markham, the subject of this notice traces his lineage to John Alden, of Puritan fame. The line of descent is as follows: John Alden and Priscilla Mullens, Jasper Alden and Mary Summers, John Alden and Hannah White, Rev. Noah Alden and Mary Vaughn, the former having been a prominent man in his day in Massachusetts; Lucy Alden (daughter of the above) and Darius Markham, the latter a member of a family that traced its ancestry back to two brothers who came to America with the Plymouth colony; Alden Markham and Elizabeth Pease, daughter of Capt. Abner Pease, son of Isaac Pease, of Enfield, Conn., son of Isaac Pease, of Salem, Mass., son of John, who in 1634, at the age of four years came to America from Ipswich, England, with his father, Robert; Alden Markham and Catharine D. Cook, the latter a daughter of Nathaniel and Hulda (Sprague) Cook, natives, respectively, of Saratoga county, N. Y., and Massachusetts; Luther O. Markham and Jennie A. Lane, whose two children, Convas L., now a senior in the medical department of Columbia University, and Amanda Rose, a recent graduate of the Haverstraw High School, represent the ninth generation in America. The subject of this sketch was born in West Fulton, Schoharie county, N. Y., April 11, 1851. His parents, Alden and Catharine D. (Cook) Markham, natives of Otsego and Schoharie counties, respectively, were the parents of five children: Convas E., who married Carrie Loudon; Nathaniel C., who died when young; Asher, who married Jane Hancock; Luther O. and Louisa E., who married Elam W. Haverley. The father in early life began teaching, but later operated a farm in Schoharie county, where he reared his family. Luther O., when a lad of twelve years, was bereaved by his mother's death, and the old home was then broken up and the family scattered. He went with his father to Massachusetts, where two years later his father died. He worked during the summer months and attended school in the winter until 1869, when at the age of eighteen he entered the Albany Normal

School, from which he was graduated in 1872. Immediately after completing his studies, Prof. Markham entered upon professional work. In fact, two weeks before graduating he came to Haverstraw and accepted the position of Principal of a school at that place. The people there had applied to Dr. Joseph Alden, President of the Normal School, to send a teacher, there being a vacancy, and he sent our subject. The latter has since remained in that village, with the exception of one year. His first position was that of Principal of a school, with three assistants. In 1885 that school was consolidated with another, a new building erected and he has since been retained as Principal and Superintendent. The enrollment of pupils is between ten and eleven hundred, and there is a well equipped corps of twenty-one teachers, the most of whom are normal graduates and trained for professional work. The school building, which was erected in 1884-85, is steam heated, furnished with every convenience for teaching, and is said to be the best arranged building of the kind in the State. Since the main building was put up an addition of five rooms has been made. In 1875 Prof. Markham was admitted to the Bar, but he has never engaged in legal practice. He is a member of the Rockland County and the State Teachers' Associations, and has, during his residence at Haverstraw, been a member of Dr. Freeman's congregation. In Masonry he is identified with Stony Point Lodge, No. 313, and for four years was Master of the lodge. For a time he was Assistant Grand Lecturer, and while serving in that capacity visited many of the lodges in the district. He also holds membership in Iona Lodge, K. of P. December 24th, 1879, he married Jennie A. Lane, who was born in Irvington and reared in Haverstraw, being the daughter of John H. and Amanda (Rose) Lane.

PERRY FAMILY. Muriah Perry was born in Prussia in 1723. He came to the United States in 1731 and lived with his son, William Perry, at the Hook, in Upper Nyack, at which place he died in 1829. Six children survived him, three sons and three daughters: John, Harmon and William, Sarah, Mariah and Elizabeth, respectively. John Perry's children were John G., David and Landy Gilchrist; Harmon's were Daniel and William H.; William's were Edward, Catherine, Jane Caroline, William, Daniel, Adaline and Fidelia. William's son Daniel was born February 12, 1808. On February 3, 1827, Daniel Perry mar-

ried Maria Ryker, born June 30, 1806, she being the daughter of Henry Ryker, born July 15, 1784. Daniel Perry's wife died and on April 22, 1839, he married his second wife, Asenith Hartwick, born August 13, 1820; As a result of these two marriages ten children were born: Henry Riker, April 28, 1828; Elizabeth, January 20, 1830; Harmon, November 26, 1831; Jane, November 28, 1833; Martin VanBuren, November 13, 1835; Mary, December 12, 1837; Daniel, November 4, 1839; William, July 25, 1841; Samuel, May 30, 1843; John Henry, April 17, 1846. Daniel Perry married Caroline A. Wyman on October 5, 1864. She was born January 11, 1845, and died June, 15, 1869. She was the daughter of Moses Wyman and on November 27, 1865, a son, Eugene Franklin Perry, was born to them. On April 8, 1891 Eugene Franklin married Margaret Gesner Mar, daughter of John E. Mar, of West Haven, Conn. She was born October 24, 1866, and the wedding took place at West Haven, Conn. Three children were born to them: Dorothy Louise, born April 18, 1893; Helen May, born May 13, 1896; Eugene Franklin, Jr., born September 14, 1897. Daniel Perry died July 28, 1881. Eugene F. Perry began his business career with the lumber firm of Gurnee & Gregory, afterward taking up the ship-building trade, which he followed about seven years at Nyack and West Haven. He then re-entered the lumber business and for thirteen years was engaged extensively in the wholesale lumber business. In 1898 he was elected Secretary of the National Wholesale Lumber Dealers' Association and occupies that office at the present time.

GERRIT SMITH. Jeffrey Smith came to Madison, New Haven county, Conn., in the year 1700, from Hadam, Conn. His father, a sea captain, came from Surrey, England, and located at Hadam in the latter part of the seventeenth century, and a few years thereafter died at sea. Jeffrey Smith followed his trade, that of blacksmith, at Madison. His son Ezra married and of his family Andrew is the father of our subject. Andrew removed to New York and engaged in the commission business, in which he was very successful. He remained in this business until 1869, when he retired. His death occurred in July, 1899. Gerrit Smith was born in Madison, Conn., January 8th, 1854. He was liberally educated, attending the schools of Madison, and later entered Lee's Academy, at that time popular, especially among south-

ern families. He graduated from this institution in 1872. He then engaged as surveyor in the U. S. Coast Survey of New Haven harbor and Long Island Sound, having previously studied civil engineering. He was engaged in this survey one year. He then entered Yale University and graduated from the academical department with the class of '77. The following year he taught in a boys' preparatory school of New Haven and then re-entered Yale University, taking up the study of law. He graduated from the law department in 1880 and was admitted to the Bar in Connecticut. He then came to New York, where he studied two years, and was then admitted to the New York Bar and began the practice of his profession, with offices at 52 Broadway. In 1883 he married Lela A., daughter of Charles Wood, of Berlin, Conn. They have a son, Reynold W., aged seventeen, and a daughter, Helen M., aged thirteen. Mr. Smith has resided in Nyack since 1893. He has during this time been actively identified with the Central Nyack Congregational Church and is now a member of the Board of Deacons, and is also Superintendent of the Sunday school. He is a member of the Nyack Y. M. C. A., of which he is also a director. He is trustee of the Nyack Public Library and trustee of the Nyack Building and Loan Association.

DANIEL D. SHERMAN, a prominent lawyer of New York city, was born in that city December 20th, 1857. He received a liberal education, first at Siglar's Academy, at Newburgh, afterward entering Yale College, from which he graduated in July, 1877. He began his legal career with the firm of William & Stephen Fullerton, of New York, where he remained for several years. He was later associated with S. A. Blatchford in editing the reports and decisions of the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals, in addition to conducting a general law practice, from 1894 to 1899. A partnership was then formed with S. A. Blatchford, in 1899, under the name of Blatchford & Sherman, which is still continued at 31 Nassau street, New York, where they conduct a general business in the State and Federal Courts. Major William C. H. Sherman, father of our subject, was born in Norwich, Conn., January, 1829. He came to New York city and engaged with the New England Cotton Mills as salesman. When the Civil War broke out he was appointed assistant paymaster of the State of New York. He served throughout the war

and later retired, making his home in Orange county. His death occurred in 1882. He was married to Miss Amelia Taft, daughter of Orray Taft, of Providence R. I., who died in 1889. Daniel D. Sherman moved to this county in 1889 and in 1892 purchased a handsome home on the Hudson river, at South Nyack, where he has since resided. He was married in 1887 to Cornelia A. Deyo, daughter of Dr. Nathaniel Deyo, of Newburgh, N. Y., and his family consists of two sons: Robert Deyo and Tracey Hazard. Mr. Sherman has served as Village Trustee of South Nyack, for three years, and is a member of the Bar Association of New York. In politics he is a Sound Money Democrat.

FRANK S. HARRIS was born at Bloomingburgh, Sullivan county, N. Y., April 19, 1860. He attended the public schools of that place as a boy and afterward entered the State Normal College at Albany, graduating from there in 1879. He next entered Columbia College and began the study of law. By close application and a natural aptitude for the profession, he made rapid progress, and at the close of the first year's course was admitted to the Bar. Mr. Harris then devoted a number of years to a mercantile business, conducting a store in the village of Ramapo until 1894, when he disposed of this business and opened an office for the practice of law in Suffern. Mr. Harris is Supervisor for the town of Ramapo and has been Corporation Counsel of the village since its incorporation in 1896; a director in the Suffern National Bank, and director and counsel for the town of Ramapo Building and Loan Association, No. 1. His father, Stephen Harris, was a native of Orange county, N. Y., removing with his parents when a child to Maryland, where he followed the trade of carpenter and builder until 1850, when he removed to Bloomingburgh, N. Y., and for years conducted a business at that place. He died in 1885.

IRVING HOPPER, attorney at law, was born in Monsey, Rockland county, N. Y. He is descended from an old Rockland county family. Jacobus VanOrden, in the year 1784, purchased a large tract of land at the foot of Scotland Hill, in the town of Clarkstown. After his death Garret A. Hopper, who had married his daughter, Maria, acquired the interests of the other heirs and settled on this farm. He had one son, Andrew, and three daughters, Catharine, who married Jacob N.

Hopper; Polly, who married Abraham G. Ackerman, and Elizabeth, who married VanRiper. Andrew Hopper was willed the farm and dwelt there. His children were James VanOrden, Albert T., John H., Matilda wife of Jacob C. Deronde and Mary Ann, wife of Peter S. VanOrden. James VanOrden Hopper (named after his grandfather), was a grocer and spent the greater part of his life in this county. In the year 1877 he purchased a business in Montgomery, Orange county, N. Y., and died there in the year 1879. He was noted for his strict honesty and sterling integrity. He left surviving him, his widow Susan, daughter of Wm. Johnson, and four sons, Andrew, William, Jr., Irving and Edgar. Irving Hopper was educated in the local schools and at the age of fifteen years entered the law office of Garrett Z. Snider at Spring Valley in this county. He was admitted to the Bar May 15, 1890, and has since that time practiced in Nyack. He is prominent in his profession, being especially so in that branch devoted to the settlement of estates and real property law. He is the attorney for the Nyack Building Co-operative, Savings and Loan Association. He was married in 1895 to Elsie, daughter of John Ross, in his life time a prominent business man of Nyack, and their family consists of one daughter.

FREDERICK S. WEIANT was born in Haverstraw February 27, 1878. He attended the village public and private schools, and graduated from the Columbia Grammar School of New York City. He next attended Columbia University and later the New York Law School, from which he was admitted to the Bar in 1890. Mr. Weiant also studied law in the office of Ex-District Attorney William McCauley of Haverstraw. He is a son of Judge George W. Weiant who died in 1895. In politics, Democratic, he has the courage of his convictions, and has become a power in the councils of the party. In 1901 Mr. Weiant was elected Sheriff of Rockland county by a handsome majority and is performing the duties of the office to the satisfaction of his friends and the public. Sheriff Weiant is identified with local social and benevolent institutions, and is highly regarded as a rising young lawyer and politician.

FRANK COMESKY, Ex-District Attorney for Rockland county, with residence at Nyack, was born in Carmel, Putnam county, N. Y.,

on the 14th of January, 1858. He is the son of Owen and Ann (Magie) Comesky, who were of Irish extraction. In his early boyhood Mr. Comesky's parents moved from Carmel to Tappan, this county, where they made their home until their decease. The father was a farmer by occupation, and was an industrious, persevering man. The rudiments of his education Mr. Comesky obtained in the public schools, but not being satisfied to begin life with such knowledge as could be gained there, he afterward entered the State Normal School at Albany, N. Y., and remained in that institution until he was graduated in 1881. It was his intention to make teaching his life work, and immediately after completing his course of study he accepted the position of Principal of the Grassy Point Public School, where he remained for two years. The three following years, from 1883 to 1886, he was employed as Principal of the Mount Moor Public School, in this county. Meantime Mr. Comesky turned his attention to the law, and devoted his spare hours to its study. He was admitted to the Bar in 1886, at the general term of the Supreme Court in Brooklyn. In April, 1887, he opened an office at Nyack, where he has since engaged in active practice. Soon after coming here he began to take an active part in public affairs. In 1890 he was elected School Commissioner over Alonzo Bedell, the Republican candidate, and served in that capacity for three years, though not abandoning his practice. In 1893 he was nominated for the office of District Attorney by the Democratic party and was elected without opposition, the Republicans nominating no candidate against him. In 1896 he was delegate to the National Democratic convention at Chicago, also delegate to the National Democratic convention at Kansas City in 1900. In his fraternal relations Mr. Comesky is a member of Wawayanda Lodge, No. 315, F. and A. M., Piermont, and he is also actively connected with the Order of Foresters and the Nyack Rowing Association. As an attorney he is keen, shrewd, well informed regarding all the technicalities of the law, and fitted to discharge the duties of any public position in a manner satisfactory to the people of the county. As District Attorney, although he tried over thirty cases, he lost but three.

HON. LOUIS F. GOODSSELL, of Highlands, who represents the Twenty-third Senate District, was born January 30th, 1847. He received his education at Tracy's (now Holbrook's) Military Academy at Ossining,

N. Y., and also took a course at the business college of Poughkeepsie, N. Y. He commenced his business life in May, 1867, in Highland Falls, as a clerk. In the fall of 1867 he went to Omaha, Neb., returned east in 1869 and located in Newburgh until 1878, from thence he proceeded to Savannah, Ga., where he resided five years. In 1885 he went to Chicago and engaged in the oil business, and in Otumwa, Iowa, in the lumber business. In 1867 he sold his interest in the business in both places to his partners and returned to his native place. When only seventeen years of age Mr. Goodsell enlisted, while at school, in Company F, 47th New York Volunteers, and went to war. He was mustered out with the regiment on August 30th, 1865. He then re-entered school and graduated the following May. He was a member of the Board of Education in Highland Falls with the Hon. John Bigelow as President. He has been elected Supervisor ten times. Mr. Goodsell when a candidate first for Assembly from the first district of Orange county, in 1894, received 6,494 votes; B. M. McClung, Democrat, 3,583; and T. Caldwell, Prohibitionist, 278. In 1895 he was a member of the following Assembly committees: Insurance and Electricity, Gas and Water Supply. In 1895 Mr. Goodsell's county was re-apportioned and two strong Republican towns taken from his district and placed in the second, and two strong Democratic towns placed in his district. His majority over Henry Garner, of Newburgh, Democrat, was 2,474. In 1895 Mr. Goodsell received 5,835 votes and Henry Garner 3,561. In the Assembly of 1896 Mr. Goodsell was chairman of the Committee on Commerce and Navigation, and also a member of the committee on Electricity, Gas and Water Supply and Public Printing. He was re-elected to the Assembly of 1897 by receiving 7,332 votes to 4,177 for F. D. Tuthill, Democrat. In the Assembly of 1897 he was appointed Chairman of the Committee on Electricity, Gas and Water Supply, a member of the Committee on Claims and Indians Affairs. At the election of 1897 he was a candidate for re-election, and as such received 5,495 votes to 3,856 for Albert S. Embler, Democrat. In the Assembly of 1898 he was chairman of the Committee on Electricity, Gas and Water Supply, and a Member of the Committee on Claims, and Fisheries and Game. Mr. Goodsell as the Republican candidate for Senator in 1898 received 14,720 votes to 12,906 for William Quaid, Democrat. As a member of the Senate Mr. Goodsell in 1899 was appointed Chairman of the Com-

mittee on Affairs of Villages and a member also of the following committees: Railroad, Miscellaneous Corporations and Public Education. Re-nominated in 1900, Mr. Goodsell received 18,162 votes to 14,417 cast for Henry P. Clausen, Democrat. In 1901 he became Chairman of the important committee on Miscellaneous Corporations and a member of the following committees: Railroads, Affairs of Villages and Trades and Manufacturers.

JONATHAN W. SHERWOOD, son of Elias G. Sherwood and Elizabeth Concklin, was born in Rockland county, about four miles north of Suffern. His boyhood was spent on his father's farm and he attended the common district school a mile and a half distant. In 1888 he graduated from the Albany State Normal School and taught for about two years in a private academy at Fishkill-on-Hudson. After obtaining a State scholarship he entered Cornell University in 1890, spent two years in the University and graduated from the Cornell Law School in 1894, with the degree of L. L. B. Mr. Sherwood was one of the three men chosen to represent Cornell University in the inter-collegiate debate with the University of Pennsylvania in 1894, and won several prizes in debates at the University, one in the final debate of the Law School in 1894. He was admitted to the Bar in the Fourth Judicial Department at Utica, N. Y., in the fall of 1894, and has practiced law at Spring Valley since that date. He was married January 26, 1898, to Anna B. Tallman, daughter of Peter Tallman, and has one son, Harold T. Sherwood. Mr. Sherwood was elected School Commissioner of Rockland county in November, 1899. The biography of the Sherwood family appears on page 29, part 2.

WILLIAM MC CAULEY, who is engaged in the practice of law at Haverstraw, was born in the Village of Stony Point, August 5th, 1856. His paternal ancestors were of Scotch-Irish origin, and his grandfather, Daniel McCauley, was the first of the name to settle in the vicinity of Stony Point, where he married Miss Call, a member of one of the old families of Rockland county. William, our subject's father, was born and always resided at Stony Point. In local matters he was active and held a number of town offices. His death occurred April 29th, 1891, at the age of seventy-nine. The mother of Mr. McCauley was Caroline

Rose, daughter of James and Sallie Dykens Rose, a prominent family of Stony Point. The father of our subject was twice married, having by his first wife, who was a Miss Brooks, one child, Sarah Jane, who died at the age of fourteen. Of his second marriage three children were reared, namely: Sarah, Mrs. S. Alonzo Smith, a resident of Hempstead, L. I., where her husband is engaged in the mercantile business; William and Lewis, who died at his residence in Hempstead, L. I., in March, 1899. Upon finishing his studies in the public schools of Stony Point, William McCauley, at the age of fourteen, entered a private school conducted by Rev. E. Gay, Jr., at Benson's Corners. Later he was a student at the Normal School at Millersville, Pa., where Prof. Edward Brooks, formerly of Stony Point, was President of the institution. After leaving the Normal School he entered Wesleyan University at Middletown, Conn., where he remained until ill health compelled him to abandon his collegiate course. After leaving college he taught in the public schools of the county until in 1879, when he entered the law office of Judge Weiant, at Haverstraw, remaining with him until he was admitted to the Bar in 1882, and afterwards continuing his practice in the same office for six years, since which time he has been alone. For some years Mr. McCauley filled the position of Corporation Counsel of the village where he resides, and in 1890 was elected on the Democratic ticket to the office of District Attorney of Rockland county, which office he held from January 1st, 1891, to January 1st, 1894. His practice has been a general one and he has had charge of a number of important cases. Mr. McCauley has erected a comfortable and commodious residence on Hudson avenue, and here he and his wife and children make their home. He was united in marriage March 14th, 1880, with Miss Ida M., daughter of Marvin and Mary (Travis) Garrison, of this city. They have two sons, Frank W. and Harry S., aged respectively nineteen and fourteen. Mr. McCauley and his family attend the Central Presbyterian Church, of which Dr. Freeman was for many years pastor. Socially he is a Mason and holds membership in Stony Point Lodge, No. 313. He is also connected with Iona Lodge, No. 124, K. of P.

FRANK RESLER CRUMBIE. James and Robert Crumbie or Abercrombie came from Scotland in 1770 and located in Philadelphia. Robert died unmarried in 1780. James married Esther Dobbin, of Phil-

adelphia, in May, 1775. His son Robert was born November 8, 1777. James, the father, died in Philadelphia in 1779. Robert married, October 22, 1803, Phebe Drake, of Peekskill. They had seven children, of whom James, the father of our subject, was the third. He was born May 21, 1809. He married Ann Eliza Dunning, December 6, 1849. She was born November 25, 1824. James Crumbie was born in Peekskill, where his father, Robert, conducted a newspaper. (He was the first newspaper publisher in Westchester county). At the early age of thirteen James Crumbie left home and began his business career in New York city. In 1858 he purchased property in Nyack. He died in New York city December 12, 1879. Frank Resler Crumbie, youngest son of James and Ann E. Crumbie, was born in New York March 29, 1862. He received his education in the schools of New York, public and private. He then engaged in business for three years, after which he entered Columbia College and graduated from the law department of that institution in 1884 and was admitted to the Bar in 1885. He has since practiced his profession, with offices at 35 Nassau street. October 23, 1897, he married Annie S. Towt, of Nyack, daughter of Edward and Annie Green Towt, and granddaughter of John W. Towt, of Nyack. They have two children, Marion and Frank Resler, Jr.

CHARLES SUMNER CARSCALLLEN, only son of John Dulmage and Martha A. (Falkinburgh) Carsecallen, was born in Jersey City September 10, 1863. He attended public and private schools in Jersey City and in 1892 entered West Point Military Academy, having that year in the competitive examination carried off the appointment over twenty other competitors. After two years in this institution he resigned to enter business with his father. Mr. Carsecallen is now a member of the Jersey City Milling Corporation and of the Pavonia Mills and Elevator Co., also an incorporated company. He is a member of the firm of Carsecallen & Cassidy, wholesale dealers in hay and grain, and members of the Produce Exchange, and he is also a director in the Fifth Ward Savings Bank of Jersey City, N. J. In Nyack, where Mr. Carsecallen has his summer home, he is Secretary of the Country Club. In 1894 Mr. Carsecallen was married to Miss Marie Louise Louderback, a daughter of David and Marie Louise Lauderback, a descendant of an old Holland Dutch family in New York of Revolutionary antecedents. Their

family consists of an only son, John Dulmage Carseallen 2nd, born November 12, 1897. Mr. Carseallen's descent is traced to John Carseallen, an English army officer who settled in New York prior to the Revolution, and who, not being in sympathy with the popular cause, removed with his family to Canada. There the Carseallen family resided until 1850, when our subject's father, John D. Carseallen, returned and established a business in Jersey City. He also occupied the residence now owned and occupied by Charles S., in Nyack, as a summer home.

THE ECKERSON FAMILY, of Clarkstown, is best represented at this period by Peter Q. Eckerson, a New York attorney of prominence. Thomas Eckerson, the great grandfather of P. Q. Eckerson, lived near Spring Valley on what is now known as the Lovatt farm. He also owned the Smith place adjoining and was a well to do farmer and a man of considerable force of character. He had two sons, Thomas and Luke Eckerson. Luke was the father of Abraham L. Eckerson, who died in Spring Valley November 1, 1890. Abraham L. Eckerson was engaged in farming and for a number of years lived in Seneca county, N. Y., but returned to Rockland county to reside prior to his death. Abraham L. Eckerson was a man of sterling character and was widely known and esteemed. He was the father of P. Q. Eckerson, who was born at Clarksville November 19, 1839, and who graduated from Hamilton College, class of '63. Mr. Eckerson after graduating began the study of law in the office of A. P. Lanning, of Buffalo, and was admitted to the Bar in New York city in 1865, and began the practice of his profession in New York, where he has since most successfully conducted it. He has his summer home at Spring Valley, in this county. Mr. Eckerson was married to Pauline A. Smith. His children are: Frank L. Eckerson, born in October, 1868; Pauline May Eckerson, born May 21, 1887, and DeWint Eckerson, born December 19, 1889. Frank L., the eldest, graduated from the College of the City of New York and from the Columbia College Law School, and was admitted to the Bar in 1891. He was a young man of brilliant attainments and became prominent in political circles. He was elected President of the Harlem Democratic Club, and just at the beginning of his successful career was most unfortunately stricken by death,

in October, 1901, to the great grief of his parents and a very wide circle of friends and followers. Major John Smith, a major in the Revolutionary Army, the great grandfather of P. Q. Eckerson, was granted his commission as major by Governor Clinton. This commission is still in a good state of preservation and is in the possession of the family; also his original warrant as Tax Collector for the Precinct of Haverstraw, dated October 3, 1787, issued to him by W. Thompson, David Pye and M. Hogenkamp. He also left other important documents. The major was one of the prominent men of his day. He took great interest in the Dutch Reformed Church at Clarksville, in which he was Reader, Chorister and bell ringer, then considered the most honorable office in the church and next in importance to the minister. He lived to a ripe old age and died January 12, 1833, aged eighty-nine years, three months and four days. The major is buried at Clarksville, where an old red sandstone can be seen still in a fair state of preservation which marks his grave. The old stone house in which he lived prior to and during the Revolutionary War is still standing in a good state of preservation, a little northwest of the German Church, at the turn in the road leading from Clarksville to New City.

THOMAS H. LEE. On the 9th of July, 1785, from Londonderry, Ireland, sailed the ship "Faithful Steward," 350 tons, loaded to the gunwales with the earthly possessions of some three hundred and sixty emigrants from the north of Ireland, who were aboard. The objective point of the voyage was Philadelphia, in the new world. Among those aboard was a considerable number—some eighty souls of the Lee family—comprising men, women and children, fathers and mothers, husbands and wives, brothers and sisters, all resolved on entering upon a new life of usefulness and labor in what is now southern and southwestern Pennsylvania. Near the close of August the ship was wrecked in Cape Henlopen and of the large number aboard but sixty-nine persons—sixty-two males and seven females—were saved from a watery grave. Among those who survived was James Lee, then a young man of twenty-six. He was the only male of the Lee family to get safely to shore. He afterwards settled in Washington county, Pennsylvania, and became the progenitor of the now numerous family of Lees in western Pennsylvania and eastern Ohio. One of his sons was Hon. Thomas

Lee, of Cadiz, Ohio, at one time Circuit Judge of the Eastern District of that State, who was the father of Rev. James Boscawen Lee, the father of Thomas Lee, the subject of the present sketch. Thomas H. Lee was born May 13, 1862, in Bovina, Delaware county, N. Y., his mother being Jane Isabella, daughter of Duncan Campbell, of Fonda, Montgomery county, N. Y. He received the advantages of a good common school education, afterwards preparing for college at Andre's Collegiate Institute. He selected as his alma mater Hamilton College, at Clinton, Oneida county, N. Y., from which institution he was graduated in the year 1883. He then, through the influence of Hon. William Murroy, then Supreme Court Justice, procured a clerkship in the law office of Chapman & Lyon, Binghamton, N. Y., and began the study of law. When about to be admitted to the Bar, in the year 1886, Mr. Lee accepted a position in the New York Customs House, where he served for nearly three years, or until shortly after the inauguration of President Harrison, when he resigned and entered upon the practice of his profession in New York city, he having while still in the customs house, passed the necessary examination for admission to the bar. Mr. Lee continued in practice in New York city until the year 1895, when Rockland county practice proving inviting, he opened an office in the Village of Haverstraw, where he is now located. Mr. Lee married, March 11, 1891, Hannah Brewster, daughter of Rev. James J. McMahon, then pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, in Haverstraw, and shortly after marriage removed to Stony Point, where he has since resided. In politics Mr. Lee is a Democrat. His political activity and zeal have led to his preferment for many places of profit and responsibility among his fellow citizens. He served as Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in Broome county during his law clerkship in Binghamton, and for services rendered during the first Cleveland campaign on the stump and at headquarters received his appointment in the customs house as law clerk to the U. S. General Appraiser. He quickly on taking up his residence in Rockland county identified himself with the Democratic organization and was frequently prominently mentioned as a candidate for office. Not, however, until the year 1899 would he accept any elective office, when he was selected as the nominee for the office of District Attorney, and although a resident of the county for so short a time comparatively, was elected by a handsome majority. When

Mr. Lee took up his residence in Stony Point he found the educational demands of the inhabitants, especially in the village districts, but meagrely supplied—the school building being an old and ramshackle affair. Largely through his instrumentality and leadership, a movement that had been slumbering for some years for improved conditions became chrystalized, and the handsome school building of District No. 2—second to none in the county—was erected in the year 1896. Mr. Lee has been one of the members of the Board of Education for the past eight years, and with the exception of one year during that time, the President of the Board. Mr. Lee is a member of the Presbyterian Church at Stony Point. His family consists of two interesting children: Thomas Hamilton, Jr., aged ten, and Eugenia, aged five. Mr. Lee is a member of the New York State Bar Association, the Theta Delta Chi College Fraternity and Stony Point Lodge, No. 313, F. and A. M.

HON. CLARENCE LEXOW is of German parentage. His father, Rudolph Lexow, came from Schleswig-Holstein to the United States upon the defeat of the Revolutionary movement of 1848, when he and a number of those who had been prominent in espousing the cause of the people against absolutism, were forced into exile. Clarence Lexow was born in Brooklyn, September 16, 1852, and when still a child his father acquired a home at Nanuet, where the family resided for over thirty years. After attending the public school in Clarkstown and the German-American Collegiate Institute in Brooklyn, he finished his academic course in the German universities of Bonn and Leipsie, and finally in 1874 received the degree of L. L. B. of Columbia College. Immediately upon graduation he established the law firm of Lexow & Haldane, and is now the senior member of the firm of Lexow, Mackellar, Guy & Wells, with law offices at No. 43 Cedar street, in the city of New York. In 1881 he married and established his home in South Nyack, in this county, where he has ever since resided. In 1886 he became Chairman of the Republican County Committee. In 1887, against his strong protest, he was nominated candidate for County Judge against the late George W. Weiant, but was defeated. In 1890 he received the Congressional nomination in the tidal wave campaign of that year, and although defeated, this county was the only one in the State that showed a Republican gain. In 1892 he was chosen delegate to the National

Convention at Minneapolis, and in 1893 he was nominated State Senator in the Sixteenth District, then composed of Dutchess, Orange and Rockland counties, normally Democratic, but was elected by a large majority, receiving a majority of the votes cast in each of the three counties. This campaign marked a radical change in the political complexion of both the Senatorial and the Congressional District, which while theretofore Democratic then became and has since remained overwhelmingly Republican. Senator Lexow took the oath of office on the first of January, 1894, and within a week introduced the resolution which brought about an investigation into the municipal affairs of the city of New York. He was Chairman of the committee, and the burden of the inquiry devolved upon him. The investigation began in April, lasted with few intermissions until the end of the year, and was so searching and uncompromising that it became historic, and added a new phrase, "To Lexow," to our vocabulary. The astounding disclosures of official corruption then brought to light gained a world-wide publicity and culminated in a political upheaval which resulted in the election of a non-partisan Mayor of the city of New York, a Republican Governor of the State and an overwhelming majority in both branches of the Legislature. These revelations resulted in a movement to secure the principle of non-partisanship in municipal affairs, which led to the subsequent overthrow of Tammany Hall in the campaign of 1894 and again in that of 1901. On the re-convening of the Senate in 1895, he presented the report and proceedings of the "Lexow Committee," accompanied by a number of important measures reforming the police and criminal law administrations in the city of New York, which were enacted into law. In the autumn of that year he was chosen permanent Chairman of the Republican State Convention, and his address on that occasion was pronounced by many of the leading newspapers to be one of the most scholarly speeches ever delivered in a State Convention in this State. In the November elections of that year he was re-nominated and re-elected State Senator by an increased majority in the present Twenty-third Senatorial District, composed of Orange and Rockland counties. On the re-convening of the Senate in 1896 he was selected Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, the most important and influential committee of that body. He then introduced and advocated the passage of the bill creating the "Greater New York," and secured the

appointment of a special committee, of which he was chosen Chairman, to investigate the propriety of municipal consolidation. On the conclusion of the inquiry he drafted and submitted a report recommending the passage of the consolidation bill and creating a commission to prepare a charter. His recommendations were adopted and the second largest city in the universe was thereby created, and a resolution passed empowering Senator Lexow's committee to act as an auxiliary to the Charter Commission. In 1897 Senator Lexow introduced a resolution creating a joint legislative committee empowered to investigate "trusts" and unlawful combinations and to recommend remedial laws. As a result of the investigation, which he then personally conducted, he drafted and presented a report, accompanied by bills, radically changing and extending the anti-trust laws, and these were passed by a large majority and are the statutes which are now in force on that subject. In the season of 1898 primary election reform was the conspicuous public issue. Many conflicting bills were introduced. Senator Lexow was chosen by his colleagues in the Legislature to undertake the task of harmonizing these and presenting a scheme of legislation that would be practical, complete and satisfactory, and after many weeks of conference and discussion, he finally framed and introduced a bill providing for a system of primary elections reform that received the remarkable endorsement of a unanimous vote of both branches of the Legislature. These are only a few of the more conspicuous measures with which Senator Lexow was identified. In addition to these, the Compulsory Education Law, the revision of the School Laws, of the Labor Laws, of the Village Law and innumerable other measures of the first public magnitude, were the results of his labors, while in all matters of general legislation he was the actual leader of the Republican majority on the floor of the Senate. While engaged in promoting measures which concerned the people of the entire State, he succeeded in securing the passage of all bills in which his constituency were more particularly interested. Among the many measures of a local character which he introduced and which were enacted into law, was that providing for the acquisition of the Stony Point battlefield (the dedication of which has recently been celebrated with great pomp) and appropriating \$25,000 therefor; that providing for an appropriation of \$5,000 to open a sluice-way through the long pier at Piermont; that assuming on the part of the State the

care and maintenance of the draw-bridge over the Minneseongo Creek, relieving the town of Stony Point of an annual expenditure of \$1,000; that providing for the appointment of a commission for the preservation of the Palisades, which has ripened into the acquisition by the State of the Palisades frontage, and promises to be the most important improvement in the history of the county; that changing the date of town elections to November and providing that they shall be biennial; that preventing the closing of the highway leading to Rockland Lake, so that the latter shall always remain accessible to the public, and many others of lesser importance. At the end of his second term, in 1898, the Senator declined a unanimous re-nomination and the presidency pro tem of the Senate, his private and professional affairs, which had been neglected by close attention to his public duties, making this decision necessary.

ALONZO WHEELER. There are few professions that present as great opportunities for advancing the welfare of mankind as does that of the law, and he who enters it finds before him countless avenues for the exercise of his talents in the service of his fellow men. Many, disregarding these opportunities, labor for self aggrandizement. Such, however, has not been the case with the subject of this sketch, whose public spirited labors have earned for him the confidence of the people and have gained for him a prominent place among the attorneys of Rockland county.

Mr. Wheeler was born in the village of Nyack in this county, April 29th, 1844. His father, Aaron R. Wheeler, was for many years a steamboat engineer, employed upon the Hudson river, and for a long period had in charge one of the swiftest steamers plying between New York and Albany. He afterwards became chief engineer and master mechanic in a sugar refinery at Hastings, Westchester county, New York, where he died at the age of sixty-nine. He was a thorough musician and possessed a rich, tenor voice, and was for many years leader of the choir of the Nyack Reformed Church. He was active in the work of the church and Sunday school. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Eliza Taylor, was born in the town of Clarkstown, in this county, and died at Hastings several years after the death of her husband.

From youth Mr. Wheeler's ambition was to enter the legal profession, and he availed himself of every means for the accomplishment of that purpose, often under the most discouraging circumstances. For a time he was student in the office of VanVorst & Beardsley, at the corner of Broadway and Pine street, in the city of New York, and afterwards pursued his studies with Marcena M. Dickinson, of Nyack, from whose office he was admitted to the Bar in December, 1868. He soon thereafter entered into a partnership with Mr. Dickinson at Nyack, under the firm name of Dickinson & Wheeler. In 1870 this partnership was dissolved and Mr. Wheeler began practice in Haverstraw on the second day of March in that year. He soon succeeded in establishing a fair practice, which afterwards developed into a large and important business, and at this writing Mr. Wheeler ranks among the busiest and most influential lawyers of Rockland county.

In 1875 he formed a partnership with Mr. Irving Brown, which continued until the year 1883, from which time to the present both Mr. Wheeler and Mr. Brown have been engaged in a separate and continuous practice in Haverstraw.

In the years 1880 and 1881, during the last illness of Judge Suffern, and down to the time of his death, he was constituted the Surrogate of Rockland by appointment of the General Term of the Supreme Court.

In 1878 Mr. Wheeler announced himself as an independent candidate for District Attorney, and at the Republican County Convention held soon after he received the endorsement of that party, and was elected over the Democratic candidate by a majority of nine hundred and seventy-five. At the expiration of the term to which he was thus elected he was presented for re-election as a strictly independent candidate, and was elected with a majority of seven hundred and fifty over his Democratic opponent and a majority of fifteen hundred over the Republican candidate.

In 1896 he received the Republican nomination for the same office and was elected and served until December, 1898, when he resigned the District Attorneyship and accepted the County Judgeship, to which he was appointed by Governor Black.

As District Attorney he tried several indictments for homicide and succeeded in obtaining convictions in eighty per cent of all criminal cases tried. He has for many years been one of the counsel for the village of

Haverstraw. Upon the organization of the Rockland County Bar Association, he was chosen its first President.

Mr. Wheeler has recently been selected by Governor Odell as one of a committee of fifteen appointed by authority of an act of the Legislature, to "examine into the condition of the statutes and laws of the State." Chief Justice Alton B. Parker, of the Court of Appeals, is the Chairman of this committee.

In the very interesting ceremonies held at Stony Point on the sixteenth of July last, in which the Point was formally dedicated and set apart as a State reservation and turned over by Governor Odell to the National Scenic and Historic Preservation Society, as its custodian, Mr. Wheeler was selected by the committee in charge to deliver the address of welcome to the assembled thousands.

Mr. Wheeler is prominent as a member of the Order of Free and Accepted Masons and in the years 1876, 1877 and 1901 was Master of Stony Point Lodge, No. 313, located at Haverstraw.

On the 9th day of May, 1876, Mr. Wheeler married Miss Mary S. Wiles, daughter of William H. Wiles, formerly a member of the firm of A. M. & W. H. Wiles, manufacturers of general machinery at Grassy Point, N. Y. There are three children of this marriage, viz.: Jeanie Suffern, Jessie Louise and Ethel May Wheeler. Mr. Wheeler and his family are all members of the Central Presbyterian Church of Haverstraw, of which he has for many years been a ruling elder, and an active worker in the Sunday school.

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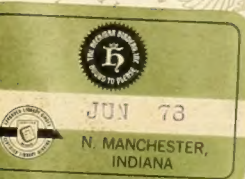
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